

Allies come together in Indo-Pacific: Valiant Shield 24. **PAGE 2**

Nicdao, Ogumoro-Uludong lead Tanapag Class of 2024 promotion. **PAGE 4**

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Asiana to close Saipan office

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
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REPORTER

After over 30 years, Asiana Airlines, one of the largest carriers servicing the CNMI, officially announced yesterday that it would be pulling the plug on its CNMI operations by the end of this month.

See ASIANA on Page 4

DOJ agrees: Insular Cases deserve no place in our law

In an historic move, the U.S. Department of Justice has announced a department-wide policy to "not rely on or seek to extend the doctrine of territorial incorporation established by the Insular Cases."

The Insular Cases are a series of early

See DOJ on Page 4



June marks 1 year of inactivity in Torres' pending criminal case



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

A combination photo of former governor Ralph DLG Torres, left, and assistant attorney general James Kingman.

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

It has officially been one year since the Superior Court has

issued any ruling or scheduling orders in the pending criminal case against former governor Ralph DLG Torres.

See JUNE on Page 4

INSIDE



SUPPLEMENT

In late 2008, Theodore Parker and Kathy Yuknavage found themselves yearning for a change, a new venture that would utilize both their skills while serving the island community they had called home for nearly 35 years.

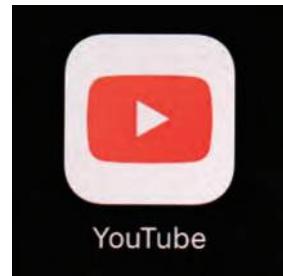
PAGE 11



BUSINESS

Pepoy's Cafe & Restaurant has relocated to the Joeten Building right across from Saipan World Resort and is now more than the triple the size of its former location at the old Armatech Building.

PAGE 17



LIFE & STYLE

YouTube is changing its policies about firearm videos in an effort to keep potentially dangerous content from reaching underage users.

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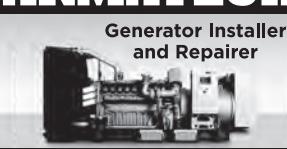
15th Anniversary

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT INSIDE

Local

Allies come together in Indo-Pacific: Valiant Shield 24

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii—U.S. Indo-Pacific Command joint forces, along with allied and partner forces, are scheduled to participate in exercise Valiant Shield (VS) 2024, June 7-18, on Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, and at sea around the Mariana

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The aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) leads a formation of Carrier Strike Group (CSG) 5 ships as U.S. Air Force B-52 Stratofortress aircraft and U.S. Navy F/A-18 Hornets pass overhead for a photo exercise during Valiant Shield 2018.

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Nicdao, Ogumoro-Uladong lead Tanapag Class of 2024 promotion

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The north side of Saipan saw an explosion of color, culture, and celebration during the Tanapag Middle School Class of 2024 promotion ceremony last Monday morning.

Jillian Reese B. Nicdao was named the valedictorian, while Amaya Joy S. Ogumoro-Uladong took the salutatorian title out of 98 prometees.

Nicdao was also the recipient of the Board of Education Academic Excellence Award, and Ogumoro-Uladong received the Commissioner of Education Award. The Principal's Leadership Award was presented to Mackela M. Sase.

Best in Subject Awards were given as well.

Nicdao racked up awards in English Language Arts, Math, Physical Education, Social Studies, and Chamorro Carolinian Language & Heritage Studies (CCLHS).



LEIGH GASES

Valedictorian and Board of Education Academic Excellence Award recipient Jillian Reese B. Nicdao, center, poses with her awards, parents, and BOE acting chair Masie B. Tenorio, far left, and BOE member Vinnie Orsini during the Tanapag Middle School promotion ceremony last Monday.

Ogumoro-Uladong was best in Physical Education and Science.

Carlos Avante Cashwell was Best in Project Lead the Way; Tyeisha Jade Ngeawkl was Best in Computer; and Raychael Niko Yiftheg was Best in Art.

Before the promotion certificates were handed out to

the students, they showcased a special cultural performance where they danced in front of their parents and guests.

After, the valedictorian speech was made by Nicdao. She thanked the people in her life who have supported her through everything. She thanked her sisters, her teachers, her friends, and her role



LEIGH GASES

Salutatorian and Commissioner of Education Award recipient Amaya Joy S. Ogumoro-Uladong poses with her award and Education Commissioner Dr. Lawrence F. Camacho during the Tanapag Middle School promotion ceremony last Monday.

models—her parents. "Thank you for inspiring me and guiding me all these years. I owe this all to you," she said.

Then, to her fellow prometees, she said, "Today we celebrate the obstacles that we have faced and the accomplishments we have made. Our start at TMS was during the pandemic in which we

DOJ

From page 1

1900s Supreme Court decisions that denied the overseas U.S. territories democracy and self-determination based on the Supreme Court's judgment that their residents were "alien races" and "savage tribes."

DOJ's action follows a recent bipartisan, bicameral 43-member letter, as well as letters from Virgin Islands Gov. Albert Bryan, civil rights

groups, and others calling on the DOJ to expressly condemn the Insular Cases and the territorial incorporation doctrine they established.

Carlos Felipe Uriarte, assistant attorney general for Legislative Affairs, wrote in response to these letters that "[t]he Department emphatically agrees ... that the racist language and logic of the Insular Cases deserve no place in our law." Moreover, "The Department unequivocally condemns the racist rhetoric

and reasoning of the Insular Cases, and unambiguously shares your view that such reasoning and rhetoric are irreconcilable with foundational American principles of equality, justice, and democracy." Most significantly, Uriarte explained that "[t]he Department has taken active steps to coordinate components and offices ... to ensure that Department litigators ... will not rely on the racist rhetoric and reasoning of the Insular Cases."

"The Justice Department's

actions help clarify that it is simply unacceptable to deny people democracy or self-determination just because of where they live or who they are," said Adi Martínez Román, co-director of Right to Democracy, an organization which works to confront and dismantle the undemocratic colonial framework in U.S. territories.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

FUEL

From page 1

Shell Marianas reduced their gas prices last Wednesday by 10 cents.

Regular gasoline is now at \$5.369 a gallon from \$5.469 a gallon; supreme gas is \$5.819 a gallon from \$5.919 a gallon; and diesel is now at \$5.639 a gallon from \$5.739 a gallon.

The last rollback was on May 15, before another roll-

back earlier that same month. This, right before the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. released a statement last May 30 that said Mobil Oil Mariana Islands, Inc. notified them of a decrease in the average international fuel oil prices which may affect the Fuel Adjustment Charge.

As a result, the current FAC rate will decrease by 2.23 cents per kWh, from \$0.26469 to \$0.24173 per kWh, effective June 1, 2024.

With that, CNMI residents will now also see a slight decrease in their electric bill.

Local motorists share their relief of another rollback in fuel and electricity amidst the increase in other daily living expenses.

A 61-year-old who's lived in the CNMI for over 30 years said that she welcomes any decrease in gas prices. She said with the state of the economy right now, she saves every penny that she

can save.

"It's good that it's going down, and hopefully it goes down again," she said about the decrease in gas prices. "I usually spend between \$80-\$100 on gas about every two weeks, so I can now save a few dollars with the decrease. I also spend about over \$300 a month on electricity, so it's good that the rate has decreased too. Hopefully, the downward trend on more expenses will be seen."

JUNE

From page 1

Last Tuesday, assistant attorney general James Kingman took to social media to express his concerns with the Superior Court's lack of action on numerous pending pretrial motions and for not setting a trial date yet in the pending criminal case against former governor Torres.

As of press time, there still has been no updates.

"It has been one full year since the corruption trial that I was brought out here to pros-

ecute was set to begin and the judge had not ruled on a single pending pretrial motion nor issued a scheduling order," Kingman said in a social media post.

Specifically, June 5, 2023, was the last trial date set for Torres' criminal case but since it was vacated due to several pending issues, Superior Court judge pro tem Arthur Barcenas has yet to issue a ruling or set a new trial date.

Last year, due to some unresolved pretrial issues before Barcenas, the prosecution and defense agreed that moving the June 5 jury trial was the best way to move

forward in the case.

After a discussion during the pretrial back in 2023, and with the consent of the parties, Barcenas vacated the jury trial set for June 5.

In an interview with Kingman back in January, he said the prosecution has since provided available dates multiple times but to no avail.

The criminal case against the former governor was filed by the Office of the Attorney General on April 8, 2022.

In that case, Torres was charged with 12 counts of misconduct in public office and one count of theft relating to

the issuance of airline tickets for business class, first class, or other premium class travel for himself and/or Diann T. Torres, his wife.

The case also alleged one count of contempt for failure to appear in compliance with a legislative subpoena.

On Aug. 23, 2022, judge pro tem Alberto Tolentino dismissed without prejudice the contempt charge against Torres.

On Oct. 26, 2023, Kingman refiled a separate charge of contempt and misconduct in public office against Torres.

That case remains pending in the Superior Court as well.

entered a school where we knew no one besides family. A new schedule, new teachers, and new surroundings, yet we have made it this far. The hardships from these past few years led us all to this day. We have reached the end of the chapter. As J. Cole once said, "Nothing lasts forever but at least we got these memories." Live in the present and live to the fullest. Congratulations

and good job to everyone."

In Ogumoro-Uladong's speech, she also thanked everyone in her life who has supported her—her parents, siblings, friends, and teachers. She said, "Thank you to all these wonderful people for helping me get where I am now."

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

ASIANA

From page 1

In a letter addressed to the public, Asiana Airlines regional manager Intak Hwang stated that after 32 years, Asiana Airlines will no longer be serving its Incheon-Saipan route come June 30.

"After three decades of service in the CNMI, our last operation will be on June 30, 2024. Following this date, we will no longer be serving the Incheon-Saipan route. Asiana Airlines has been the front runner in providing quality air travel to Saipan residents and promoting Korean tourism in the CNMI since May 1992.

We are proud of all that we have accomplished together with our island partners and would like to thank you all for your loyalty and support in the last 32 years. Please be assured that we will maintain and deliver the high standard of professionalism and service that has set Asiana Airlines apart from competitors until our final flight from Saipan. We once again appreciate your long-standing cooperation and wish you all the best moving forward," said Hwang.

Commonwealth Ports Authority executive director Leo Tudela stated that CPA will be impacted financially by the

loss of Asiana Airlines.

"I was surprised with the news myself. I received the letter earlier today. It's sadening that Asiana is leaving, they've been here a long time. We had hoped they would stay past June 30, but unfortunately, they decided to terminate their flights to Saipan. Asiana leaving is going to impact CPA's airport revenue," he said.

In a previous board meeting, CPA chair Joe Ayuyu shared that CPA has already incurred about a \$200,000 deficit (on the airport side) this fiscal year.

To remedy the possible financial loss, Tudela said CPA is working with Hong Kong Airlines to add additional flights to its current schedule.

"We are trying to arrange additional flight schedules with Hong Kong Airlines this summer. That would help temporarily and we hope they continue to fly until December. Unfortunately, we don't tell the airlines what to do. We just hope they can consider doing this because we need more tourists coming in, not more airlines pulling out, because we are still slowly recovering from the pandemic," he said.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

ALLIES

From page 2

Indo-Pacific the opportunity to integrate Navy, Marine Corps, Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, Space Force, and partner nations to train in precise, lethal, and overwhelming multi-axis, multi-domain effects that demonstrate the strength and versatility of the Joint and Combined Force.

With the involvement of U.S. Space Command and U.S. Transportation Command, VS24 is expanding the multi-domain cross-Combatant Command collaboration that is incumbent on any large-scale exercise or operation.

"Valiant Shield provides us a unique opportunity to operate and engage with our allies and partners and to demonstrate our shared commitment to global security and stabil-

ity," said Adm. Stephen T. Koehler, commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet. "It takes all of us to maintain a safe, stable, and secure Indo-Pacific, as we flex our joint and combined capabilities to advance multi-domain operations."

The exercise prepares the Joint and Combined Force to rapidly respond to crises and contingencies across a spectrum of operations from humanitarian assistance and disaster relief to armed conflict.

VS24 assists U.S. and allied and partner forces in developing regional and global power projection capabilities. Integrated training allows the participating countries to refine the skills required to succeed in the defense of their shared interests in the region.

This is the 10th Valiant Shield exercise, which began in 2006. (PR)

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San Nicolas announces bid for re-election

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
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REPORTER

With election season just around the corner, more and more incumbent CNMI leaders are announcing their plans to either run for re-election, run for a new position, or sit this election out. Most recently, Rep. Patrick Hofschneider San Nicolas (R-Tinian) has announced his bid for re-election.

Last Monday, San Nicolas officially announced his decision to seek re-election

for a third term in the CNMI House of Representative representing the island of Tinian under the CNMI Republican Party banner.

San Nicolas, who has served as Tinian's lone representative since 2021, brings a wealth of experience from his background in law enforcement and business.

His career spans roles as a police officer at the Department of Public Safety and as an investigator, then commissioner at the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission.

Additionally, he has demonstrated executive leadership as a key figure at SN5, Inc., a local company founded by his father, the late mayor Jose Pangelinan San Nicolas, which was engaged in inter-island shipping, construction, and the sale of petroleum products, bottled water, and groceries.

Reflecting on his service, San Nicolas said, "I am deeply grateful to the people of Tinian for their votes of confidence in 2020 and 2022. Your support has been the driving force be-

hind my work in addressing the fiscal needs of our residents and the broader Commonwealth. I seek your support now in 2024 to continue moving Tinian forward."

San Nicolas will emphasize economic diversification and support for the tourism industry in the wake of the impending closure of the Hyatt Regency, Saipan's flagship hotel.

"With the closure of the Hyatt Regency, it is more important than ever to contribute to the diversification of our economy while providing much-

needed relief to our tourism sector," San Nicolas stated.

"I am committed to working alongside Sen. Karl King Nabors and the leadership of Tinian to develop sustainable economic strategies that benefit our community," he added.

San Nicolas invites all residents of Tinian and the CNMI to join him in this effort.

"Together, we can build a stronger, more resilient future for Tinian and the Commonwealth," he said.

San Nicolas is the son of former mayor Jose Pangelinan San Nicolas and Guillermina Villagomez Hofschneider-San Nicolas.

\$5K bail imposed on man accused of stealing chairs

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
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REPORTER

The Superior Court has recently imposed a \$5,000 cash bail on a man accused of stealing plastic chairs.

During a bail hearing last Monday, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho imposed a \$5,000 cash bail on Clyde Thomas C. Sablan, a man accused of stealing plastic chairs from Kalayaan Inc. catering in San Antonio.

Sablan, 30, is facing charges of theft and burglary.

After his hearing, Sablan was remanded back to Department of Corrections' custody

and was ordered to return to court on June 12, 2024 for a preliminary hearing. Meanwhile his arraignment is set for June 17, 2024.

According to court documents, the theft incident was reported last May 30.

A local resident told police that she saw Sablan, who was living in a light brown typhoon tent next to her house, coming out of the tent with several plastic chairs.

The individual told her daughter to call the police and also instructed her daughter to take a photo of Sablan taking the plastic chairs and placing them at an abandoned house

before walking away.

Later, a Kalayaan employee—in charge of the company's kitchen equipment and familiar with the chairs—positively identified the seven chairs as owned by the company.

The employee also showed police the storage room that was broken into. He showed where the padlock door was pried open.

The employee said the plastic chairs were inside the storage room before they were stolen.

Sablan was later spotted by the police near the San Antonio Church. He was arrested and brought to Corrections for booking and detention.




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3	47,767	3,981	1,991	1,838	919
4	57,720	4,810	2,405	2,220	1,110
5	67,673	5,640	2,820	2,603	1,302
6	77,626	6,469	3,235	2,986	1,493
7	87,579	7,299	3,650	3,369	1,685
8	97,532	8,128	4,064	3,752	1,876
Each additional member add	+\$9,953	+\$830	+\$415	+\$383	+\$192

Note: All WIC Income Eligibility Guidelines are based on GROSS income, meaning before taxes or other deductions. A person or family members who participate in other benefit programs, such as the Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP) or Medicaid, automatically meet the income requirement.

Call us at (670) 664-4084 or (670) 236-8741 to make an appointment!

This AD is funded by USDA 202424W10347

The CNMI WIC (Women, Infants and Children) Program is now accepting Vendor Applications for the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

All interested vendors may pick up an application packet at the CNMI WIC Program Administration Office located on Upper Navy Hill, 11546 Isla Drive. The application acceptance period is from May 1, 2024 through June 14, 2024, Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, or vendors may request for an application through email at fabian.ulloa@chcc.health.

Applications must be submitted to the CNMI WIC Program Administration Office no later than 4:00 pm, June 14, 2024.

Prospective applicants are encouraged to carefully read through the information packet provided to ensure minimum qualifications are met.

Inquiries and technical questions may be directed to Fabian M. Ulloa, WIC Program Coordinator, at (670) 664-4067 or (670) 285-4073 or by email at fabian.ulloa@chcc.health.

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Former CNMI bar executive director pleads guilty to 4 counts of fraud

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Former CNMI Bar Association executive director Peonie Cabrera has pleaded guilty to all four fraud charges filed against her by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Districts of Guam and the NMI.

During a change of plea Tuesday in federal court, Cabrera pleaded guilty two counts of bank fraud and two counts of wire fraud before Designated Magistrate Judge Michael J. Bordallo.

The court found the defendant was fully competent to enter a knowing and voluntary plea and accepted the plea of guilty.

Bordallo set Cabrera's sentencing for Aug. 16, 2024, before releasing the defendant on her own personal recognizance meaning she will remain released pending sentencing.

According to court information, for the first count of bank fraud, Cabrera falsely wrote and cashed checks payable to herself from the Bank of Hawaii account belonging to the Northern Marianas Bar Association.

"Beginning on or about April 4, 2019, and continuing to on or about May 4, 2023 in the U.S. District of the Northern Mariana Islands, Cabrera knowingly executed a scheme to obtain money, funds, and other property under the custody and control of a financial institution, by means of false and fraudulent pretenses and representations, to wit, by submitting a falsified signature card and then making cash withdrawals from a bank account at the Bank of Guam belonging to the Northern Marianas Bar Association,

"Beginning on or about April 14, 2020, and continuing to on or about June 11, 2021, in the U.S. District of the Northern Mariana Islands, defendant Peonie Cabrera devised a scheme and artifice to defraud and obtain money and property by means of false and fraudulent representations, and caused to be transmitted a writing or signal by means of wire

sociation accounts to a third party account which was later diverted to herself.

"Beginning on or about April 14, 2020, and continuing to on or about June 11, 2021, in the U.S. District of the Northern Mariana Islands, defendant Peonie Cabrera devised a scheme and artifice to defraud and obtain money and property by means of false and fraudulent representations, and caused to be transmitted a writing or signal by means of wire

communication in interstate commerce for the purpose of executing such scheme and artifice, to wit, by causing wire transfers of money from accounts belonging to the Northern Mariana Islands, defendant Peonie Cabrera devised a scheme and artifice to defraud and obtain money and property by means of false and fraudulent representations, and caused to be transmitted a writing or signal by means of wire communication in interstate commerce for the purpose of executing

1343," the information said.

"Beginning on or about June 18, 2021, and continuing to on or about Feb. 24, 2023, in the U.S. District of the Northern Mariana Islands, defendant Peonie Cabrera devised a scheme and artifice to defraud and obtain money and property by means of false and fraudulent representations, and caused to be transmitted a writing or signal by means of wire communication in interstate commerce for the purpose of executing

such scheme and artifice, to wit, by using false and fraudulent representations to cause members of the Northern Mariana Bar Association members to make wire transfers of money into third-party payment accounts owned and controlled by defendant, which money was for her own personal use, knowing that she had no right to said money, funds, and property, in violation of title 18, United States Code, Section 1343," the information further states.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
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PHONE: (1-670) 237-6500/1 • FAX: (1-670) 234-5962
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INVITATION FOR BID
PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-010-24
SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 28, 2024: 2:00 P.M.

"AIRCONDITIONING PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE SERVICE AND REPAIRS BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA, ROTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT"

THE BID PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AT THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) ACCOUNTING OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR, DEPARTURE BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BEGINNING MAY 28, 2024. AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF \$100.00 SHALL BE PAID TO CPA BEFORE A BIDDER MAY OBTAIN THE BID PACKAGE. PAYMENTS SHALL BE IN CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK, OR CREDIT CARD.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED "AIRCONDITIONING PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE SERVICE AND REPAIRS/BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA, ROTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (IFB-010-24)" TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON OR BEFORE 2:00 P.M., JUNE 28, 2024. BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATIONS ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID PRICE.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAIC SECTION 540-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-008-24
SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 28, 2024: 2:00 P.M.

"SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF AUTOMOTIVE DIESEL OIL AND JET A1 FUEL"

THE BID PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP BEGINNING MAY 28, 2024 AT THE ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, 2ND FLOOR, DEPARTURE BUILDING, FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT UPON PAYMENT OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF \$100. PAYMENT SHALL BE MADE IN CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK, CREDIT CARD, OR U.S. POSTAL MONEY ORDER. ALL APPLICANTS SHALL PAY THE \$100.00 TO RECEIVE A COPY OF THE BID.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED "SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF AUTOMOTIVE DIESEL OIL AND JET A1 FUEL (RFP-008-24)" TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON OR BEFORE 2:00 P.M., JUNE 28, 2024. BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATIONS ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID PRICE.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAIC SECTION 540-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

WENDI PRATER
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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INVITATION FOR BID
PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-011-24
SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 28, 2024: 2:00 P.M.

"PROVIDE AND INSTALL ONE (1) BRAND COMMERCIAL AIR-CONDITIONING UNIT AT THE FRANCISCO C. ADA/ SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT"

THE BID PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AT THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) ACCOUNTING OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR, DEPARTURE BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BEGINNING MAY 28, 2024. AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF \$100.00 SHALL BE PAID TO CPA BEFORE A BIDDER MAY OBTAIN THE BID PACKAGE. PAYMENTS SHALL BE IN CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK, OR CREDIT CARD.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED "PROVIDE AND INSTALL ONE BRAND NEW COMMERCIAL A/C UNIT (IFB-011-24)" TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON OR BEFORE 2:00 P.M., JUNE 28, 2024. BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATIONS ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID PRICE.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAIC SECTION 540-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

WENDI PRATER
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DATE: _____

Opinion

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Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Biden should practice what he preaches on justice system

The response to the Donald Trump verdict was predictable, as partisans raced for their corners. But President Joe Biden's comments were particularly thoughtless given their lack of self-awareness and glaring hypocrisy.

On Friday, Biden weighed in on the New York jury verdict that determined his predecessor was guilty of 34 felony counts for falsifying business records to cover up a potentially damaging tryst with a porn star. He was particularly unsympathetic to attacks on the criminal justice system from Trump and Republicans.

"It's reckless, it's dangerous, it's irresponsible for anyone to say this was rigged just because they don't like the verdict," Biden said. "Our justice system has endured for nearly 250 years, and it literally is the cornerstone of America. Our justice system, the justice system, should be respected, and we should never allow anyone to tear it down. As simple as that. That's America. That's who we are."

Stirring words. If only Biden and Democrats believed them.

In fact, not only do progressives rail against a justice system steeped in "systemic racism," they openly seek to "tear down" the U.S. Supreme Court precisely because the justices prefer to follow the Constitution rather than bend to fashionable statist orthodoxy. Undermining the criminal justice system is part and parcel of the leftist playbook. When the court issues decisions they don't like, congressional Democrats now threaten to manipulate the institution with court-packing schemes.

When the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade, did Biden urge his supporters to respect the decision, while defending the importance of an independent judiciary? Hardly. Instead, the president attacked "extremist" justices and accused them of "being far removed from the majority of this country."

Just a few years earlier, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, Democrat from New York, took to the steps of the high court to rile up a crowd upset about a pending abortion case. "I want to tell you, (Neil) Gorsuch. I want to tell you, (Brett) Kavanaugh," Sen. Schumer said, "you have released the whirlwind and you will pay the price. You won't know what hit you if you go forward with these awful decisions."

Not a peep from Biden about such threats and intimidation being "reckless" or "dangerous" or "irresponsible."

And while the president is preaching "respect" for the Trump verdict, he's blatantly ignoring the Supreme Court by continuing to forgive billions in student loans despite a recent ruling that he lacks authority to unilaterally take such a step in most cases.

Our courts do indeed deserve respect. But if Biden and his fellow travelers are truly concerned about Trump supporters "tearing down" the justice system, they might start leading by example.



Dead Fish

I t frustrates me, at my age and for someone who often acts like he knows it all, to consider just how much more I have yet to learn and how little time (relatively speaking) I have left to figure things out... about a lot of things, but certainly about human nature and the complexities of our relationships with each other and with life itself. The ebb and flow of individual life experiences and perspectives make it difficult to grasp in a single thought the meaning of life, much less any certainty about the best way to live it. Complicating matters (for many of us) is having been raised in juxtaposing cultures – island sea-faring, warrior poets of the Mortlocks and old-south, confederate good-ole-boys of Virginia for me. You really can't script a juxtaposition of more complex proportions. What may be acceptable in one is not always correct in the other. It's fair to say, being mixed up can be confusing, but there is hope in finding balance down the middle (on an even keel, if you will). There is an undertow of commonalities in nearly all cultures, but we sometimes need to wipe the fog off the lenses from our respective up-bringing to see and appreciate them fully.

Perhaps there is some truth to Socrates saying that, "The only true wisdom is in knowing you nothing," but it can be a hard pill to swallow for those of us whose egos and self-worth are hopelessly and inextricably linked to what we think we know.

Whether through formal education, self-study or even casual conversations, there is always something new to learn. In the words of Mark Twain, we should "never let our schooling interfere with our education." Education being, "that which reveals to the wise, and conceals from the stupid, the vast limits of their knowledge." The process of learning is a journey with no end in sight. Humbling though it may be, some of us need regular reminders to get over ourselves and that we really can't ever know it all. Bear in mind that, "A true friend stabs you in the front, not the back" (*Oscar Wilde*).

I've had the good fortune of being guided (or perhaps influenced is a better word) by some such friends and family members. Professionally speaking, I learned early on the disadvantages of surrounding myself with sycophants and made a concerted effort to engage with people who put fiduciary duty over personal kinship and said what they felt rather than what they thought I wanted to hear. My mentors (whether they knew I thought of them as such or not)—co-workers, bosses, boards of directors, and the likes—were never impressed by egocentrism and kept me grounded in humility as a virtue. They (I won't name names because the list is long and I don't have their permissions) instilled a sense of value in looking beyond myself, arguably the most rewarding life-lesson for me to date. I hope everyone can grow in their respective careers and life in general surrounded by people who challenge and hold them accountable

By JIM RAYPHAND

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jim Rayphand is director of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation and is a former executive director of the Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems Inc.



to elevated, albeit intangible standards as such. I am doing my best to pay it forward. And no, it isn't easy to take criticism (constructive or otherwise) especially for the prideful, but each can be a learning opportunity for good, bad or indifference.

It's no exaggeration to say I was years deep into an executive management career before I understood or at least became more sensitive to the importance of decorum. It took someone telling me directly that he didn't appreciate my childish antics including but not limited to sarcasm or other lame attempts at being funny (at least not in my official capacity). Again, what is funny to some may be offensive to others and, if you choose a life of public service and genuinely want to do right by the community you serve then you will consider the collective good beyond your own.

One of the many odd variances (and on-going challenges for me) between my respective cultures comes in the form of a handshake. As a young Mortlockese boy, I was taught when greeting another (especially our elders) to offer a soft hand shake with a light grip and a slight bow (with no direct or at least no prolonged eye-contact) as a sign of respect—that a stare and a hard grip was "namaike" or a challenge...to fight. Similarly, the Chamorro and Carolinian "fangingi" sometimes with a light hold onto their elder's hand. Conversely, it is an insult or a sign of disrespect for a true Virginian gentleman who doesn't get a firm handshake and direct eye contact when being greeted. The "Dead Fish" handshake as we called it was a favorite among older Fraternity brothers in welcoming young pledges to let them know how worthless they were before being inducted, if they made it through (what for my brothers and I was a six-month hazing...err... I mean pledging period). Point being, for emphasis, is that what is good for one maybe be insulting to another and nowhere is that more important to understand than in the greatest "melting pot" of the world.

Coincidentally, some of the challenges for many in the population of individuals with disabilities served by the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation otherwise known as OVR—namely

See DEAD on Page 9

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

80 years ago today, June 7, 1944

By DON A. FARRELL
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Eighty years ago today, June 7, 1944 in the Marianas, it was June 6 in Europe. General Dwight D. Eisenhower ordered the Allied troops to land at German-held Normandy for the long-awaited invasion of Europe. It was a shore-to-shore invasion from England across the English Channel to beaches in France—less than 100 miles.

Unknown to the Japanese, the Americans had also gathered a huge armada in the Pacific. Admiral Raymond Spruance, in command of the U.S. 5th Fleet, had moved hundreds of ships from the West Coast and Pearl Harbor to Majuro and Kwajalein in the Marshall Islands in preparation for Operation Forager: The Campaign for the Mariana Islands. On June 6, 1944, Chamorro Standard Time, Spruance ordered his fleet to begin leaving for the Mariana Islands, slower ships first. Pacific distances—about 2,600 miles from San Francisco to Pearl, 2,100 miles from Pearl to Kwajalein, and 1,500 from Kwajalein to Saipan. Total logistical train: Over 6,000 miles.

To ensure the safety of his troop carriers and battlefleet, Admiral Spruance ordered Admiral Marc Mitscher to attack the Marianas on June 11 with the fast carrier fleet and establish air superiority. At the same time, Admiral Chester Nimitz ordered Vice Admiral Charles Lockwood to establish a submarine blockade north of the Marianas to sink any Japanese ships trying to reinforce the Marianas, or run away from the fight.

The sudden air attack against the Mariana Islands trapped General Hideyoshi Obata, commander of the 31st Imperial Japanese Army in Guam. This left the defense of Saipan to General Yoshitsugu Saito, commander of the IJA 43rd Division. Also stationed on Saipan, was Admiral Chuichi Nagumo, the man who had conducted the raid on Pearl Harbor, then lost the Battle of Midway (June 4, 1942). He was now assigned to a desk job on Saipan as commander of the Central Pacific Area Fleet.

By June 12, Admiral Mitscher's veteran naval aviators had destroyed all the Japanese aircraft they could find, in the air or on the ground on Guam, Rota, Tinian, Saipan and Pagan. It was safe for the battlefleet to advance.

On June 13, America's new battlefleet arrived at Saipan to begin the ship-to-shore bombardment. This was testament to the new military-industrial-scientific complex created by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and all the "Rosie the Riveters" who worked in the factories while their men fought the war. In just two years, they had built a navy second to none, with better equipment and better-trained crews, sufficient to fight two major battles, virtually simultaneously, in two separate oceans.

Then, just before dawn on June 14, Rear Admiral Jesse Oldendorf rounded Marpi Point on northern Saipan in command of Task Force 58.17 with the battleships *Tennessee*, *California*, *Maryland*, and *Colorado*. At the same time, Rear Admiral Walden I. Ailsworth led another group around Naftan Point in the south, including the battleships *Pennsylvania*, *New Mexico* and *Idaho*. Sunk during the first two raids on Pearl Harbor, raised from the watery graves, and now seeking revenge.

Much to his chagrin, Admiral Chuichi Nagumo awoke atop Mt. Tapochau with the "Ghosts of Pearl Harbor" shooting at him with a vengeance.

According to Admiral Nimitz, Nagumo brought demise upon himself at Pearl Harbor. "... had the Japanese [Nagumo] returned for more strikes against our naval installations, surface



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

U.S. Navy Admiral Chester Nimitz.

oil storage, and our submarine base installation Nagumo—the commander of the P. H. Attack Force—missed a great chance by not following up his attack."

Indeed, had Nagumo approved the third strike and taken out America's fuel reserves and dry dock facilities at Pearl on December 7, America's Pacific War would have been pushed back to the West Coast. Had that happened and Japan sued for peace, offering to leave Hawaii to the Americans in return for the Americans leaving Asia for Japan, there is a good possibility the American public would have supported the offer, being more concerned about Hitler in Europe.

While the new and old battleships pounded away at targets throughout Saipan and Tinian, three UDT teams moved into action on Saipan, clearing dangerous obstacles from the reef while under fire.

When Admiral Ernest King, commander, U.S. Fleet, first suggested an invasion of the Mariana Islands, he anticipated it would draw out the Japanese fleet for a showdown. Now, on the other side of the Philippines Sea, the American submarine *Redfin* sighted Admiral Jisaburō Ozawa, commander of the Imperial Japanese Navy 1st Mobile Fleet, leaving Tawi-Tawi, Philippines in an unexpected hurry. When the message got to Spruance, he recognized that Ozawa was coming out to fight and they would have to meet somewhere in the Philippine Sea, but not yet. He estimated that Ozawa could not arrive in the neighborhood of the Marianas before June 17. Spruance ordered as many men and supplies unloaded as fast as possible, beginning the following morning—June 15, 1944—D-Day, Saipan.

Meanwhile, Spruance and his staff began preparing for a fleet engagement to include submarine search nets, air rescue services, a patrol plane squadron, and the destruction of air bases on Iwo Jima. History was about to be made.



U.S. Navy Admiral Admiral Raymond Spruance and U.S. Navy Admiral Chester Nimitz.



Japanese Imperial Navy Vice Admiral Jisaburō Ozawa.

References: Ernest Arroyo and Stan Cohen., *Raising the Fleet: The Pearl Harbor Salvage Operation, 1941-1944*. Missoula, Montana: Mountain Press Publishing, p. ix; Don A. Farrell. Seabees and Superforts at War: Tinian's Critical Role in the Ultimate Defeat of Japan: *Tinian, CNMI: Micronesian Productions. 2024, Chapter 5*; Janes D. Hornfischer. *The Fleet at Flood Tide: America at Total War in the Pacific 1944-1945*. New York: Bantam Books, 2016, p. 89.)

Don A. Farrell is an educator, local historian, and author based on Tinian. He is known for his research and publications on the history of the Mariana Islands with an emphasis on World War II.

DEAD

From page 8

persons with autism—are eye-contact and/or physical touch including a handshake sometimes. Common characteristics of persons on the autism spectrum often include an aversion, if not resistance, to physical touch and eye contact—there are exceptions, of course. Given OVR's mission to get said individuals into competitive integrated employment, those characteristics alone can become barriers (particularly in private industries built largely on firm handshakes and such) due to a lack of understanding or appreciation for a person's worth beyond the drive

for conformity. The same is true for barriers due to cultural proclivities. A passing thought on that point and cultural taboos as a word of caution: For some islanders (I can say Mortlockese/Chuukese for certain and I think for culturally sensitive Chamorros and Carolinians as well), jokes relating to a man's mother, sister and other female family members especially (although not necessarily) in mixed company are straight up fighting words—no ifs, ands or buts about it. Coincidentally, my first fight upon moving to Virginia started over a "Joe Mama" joke that I took personally on instinct and though I have since learned to "take a joke" (as Americans like to say), others still may not.

Truth be told, much of what I think I know today has been

learned in trial by fire or on the fly picking up tidbits and pieces of wisdom from people far wiser than I ever could be. More often than I'd like to admit, I've had to learn from my mistakes.

In the spirit of finding commonalities between juxtaposing cultures, Mahatma Ghandi said, "The simplest acts of kindness are by far more powerful than a thousand heads bowing in prayer" and his polar opposite (in terms of culture and lifestyle), Mark Twain, reminds us that, "Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see." And finally, Facebook told me, "If you can't be kind... be quiet."

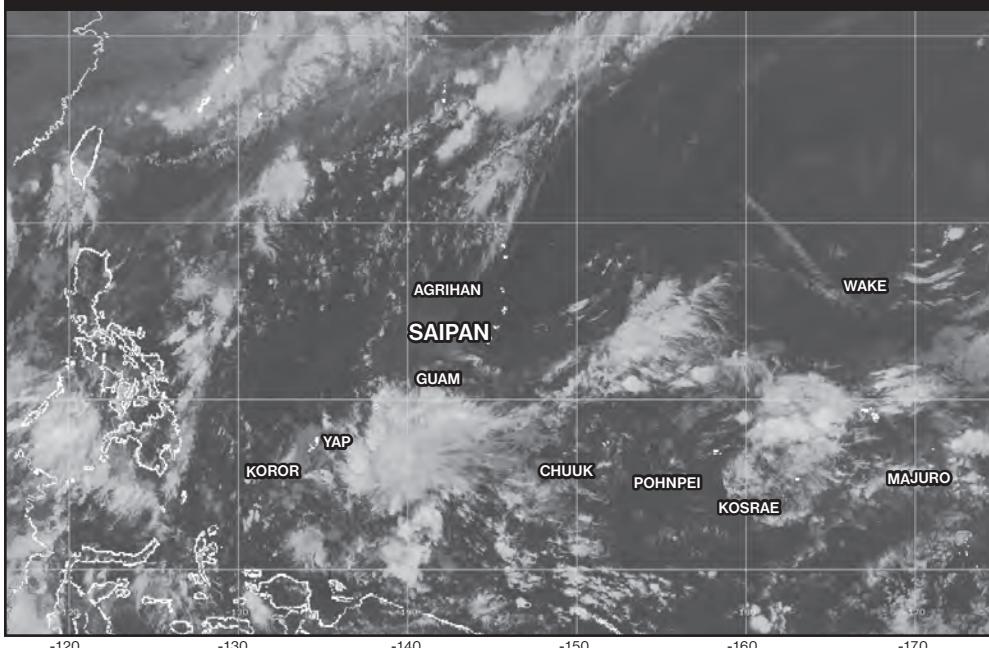
For more about vocational rehabilitation services for people with disabilities, please contact the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation at (670) 322-6537/8 or online at www.ovrgov.net.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers.	Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers.	Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:07 AM THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2024

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Satellite shows an upper-level low within the Tropical Upper Tropospheric Trough (TUTT) northeast of Guam and east-northeast of Saipan. Otherwise, partly cloudy skies and isolated showers will move through the Marianas Waters today. Combined seas of 4 to 6 feet are composed mainly of trade-wind swell and wind waves.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: <https://www.weather.gov/gum/>

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	86° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°
Yap	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°
Chuuk	Cloudy	87° / 80°
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	86° / 80°
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	87° / 80°
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	85° / 80°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:45 AM	6:45 PM
Saturday	5:45 AM	6:46 PM
Sunday	5:46 AM	6:46 PM
Monday	5:46 AM	6:46 PM
Tuesday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	5:59 AM	7:37 PM	-
Saturday	6:57 AM	8:35 PM	-
Sunday	7:57 AM	9:28 PM	-
Monday	8:54 AM	10:15 PM	-
Tuesday	9:49 AM	10:56 PM	-

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AROUND THE GLOBE		
		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly cloudy	62 / 52 °F
Beijing	Fair	87 / 65 °F
Hong Kong	Light Rain Shower	81 / 75 °F
Honolulu	Partly cloudy	84 / 73 °F
London	Partly cloudy	75 / 55 °F
Los Angeles	Partly cloudy	72 / 61 °F
Manila	Thunderstorms	89 / 79 °F
Melbourne	Partly cloudy	57 / 40 °F
Miami	Partly cloudy	86 / 78 °F
New York	Partly cloudy	71 / 60 °F
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	82 / 64 °F
Paris	Partly cloudy	81 / 61 °F
Busan	Partly cloudy	84 / 58 °F
Rome	Sunny	84 / 59 °F
Salem	Partly cloudy	73 / 55 °F
San Francisco	Partly cloudy	64 / 55 °F
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	86 / 63 °F
Tokyo	Mostly Cloudy	80 / 66 °F
Washington, DC	Partly cloudy	82 / 72 °F

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
2:11 AM	Low Tide	1.49
6:48 AM	High Tide	2.11
2:27 PM	Low Tide	-0.38
9:49 PM	High Tide	2.09

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2024

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA076	9:50AM	10:35AM	Daily	UA174	8:00AM	8:50AM	Daily
SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
UA824	11:50AM	2:25PM	1, 3, 5	UA825	5:30PM	9:55PM	2, 4, 7
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily	PR110	10:30PM	4:25AM+1	Daily
UA193	6:50PM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Palau	UA184	10:25PM	4:20AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA183	7:10PM	9:10PM	Daily	UA192	10:25PM	6:15AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
				UA184	11:50PM	5:45AM+1	2, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
7C3403/2305	4:45AM	10:20PM	Daily	UA192/174	10:25PM	8:50AM+1	2, 5 via Palau,
UA076/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam				Guam
UA076/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau	UA184/174	10:25PM	8:50AM +1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via Guam
				UA184/174	11:50PM	8:50AM +1	2, 5 via Guam
				7C2306/3406	11:10PM	3:10PM+1	Daily
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)				INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	3:15AM	7:00AM	Daily	7C3406	9:30AM	3:10PM	Daily
7C3405	4:10PM	7:45PM	Daily	TW307	8:15PM	1:40AM+1	Daily
7C3403	4:45AM	8:35AM	Daily	7C3404	10:10PM	3:40AM+1	Daily
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX77	4:05AM	7:00AM	1, 5	HX76	7:25PM	2:35AM+1	4, 7

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (*The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.*)

STAR MARIANAS AIR. INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 2, 2024

SAIPAN TO ROTA					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	SAIPAN	ROTA	08:30	09:00	Daily
1302	SAIPAN	ROTA	10:30	11:00	Daily
1303	SAIPAN	ROTA	15:30	16:00	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3101	ROTA	SAIPAN	9:30	10:00	Daily
3102	ROTA	SAIPAN	11:30	12:00	Saturday & Sunday
3103	ROTA	SAIPAN	13:30	14:00	Monday To Friday
3104	ROTA	SAIPAN	16:30	17:00	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	ROTA	GUAM	11:30	12:00	Monday To Friday

GUAM TO ROTA					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
4301	GUAM	ROTA	12:30	13:00	Monday To Friday

SAIPAN TO TINIAN					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1201	SAIPAN	TINIAN	7:30	7:45	Daily
1202	SAIPAN	TINIAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	SAIPAN	TINIAN	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	SAIPAN	TINIAN	10:00	10:15	Daily
1206	SAIPAN	TINIAN	14:00	14:15	Daily
1207	SAIPAN	TINIAN	15:00	15:15	Daily
1208	SAIPAN	TINIAN	16:00	16:15	Daily
1209	SAIPAN	TINIAN	17:00	17:15	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
2101	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
2102	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	TINIAN	SAIPAN	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	TINIAN	SAIPAN	10:30	10:45	Daily
2106	TINIAN	SAIPAN	14:30	14:45	Daily
2107	TINIAN	SAIPAN	15:30	15:45	Daily
2108	TINIAN	SAIPAN	16:30	16:45	Daily
2109	TINIAN	SAIPAN	17:30	17:45	Daily



BRABU PHARMACY: A 15-year journey of community service with a heart

By NHORLEEN BITCO-LILLES
Special to Saipan Tribune

In late 2008, Theodore Parker and Kathy Yuknavage found themselves yearning for a change, a new venture that would utilize both their skills while serving the island community they had called home for nearly 35 years. Both had a history of contributing to the Commonwealth, not just in healthcare but also in environmental conservation. This shared vision led to the birth of Brabu Pharmacy, which opened its doors on June 9, 2009. Now, 15 years later, Brabu Pharmacy stands as a testament to their dedication and the community's trust.

From humble beginnings to growth

Brabu Pharmacy has come



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Brabu Pharmacy staff bought this wooden relief of a tree representing the many branches (staff members) of the Brabu familia. Those who have been with Brabu for a year or more sign the back of the piece.

a long way from its modest beginnings. Initially a single-location pharmacy, it has expanded into three locations, offering a range of services including vaccinations and mobile clinics. This growth is a direct result of the hard

work and dedication of its staff, who diligently research new, environmentally friendly products and listen to customer feedback. "As an environmentally conscientious organization, we train our

See *JOURNEY* on Page 12



Center for Living Independently in the CNMI is honored to have the opportunity to give a big congratulations to Brabu Pharmacy on their 15th anniversary. Brabu is a valuable member of the CLI family. They have provided countless donations of medical supplies during the COVID-19 pandemic. Whenever the CLI consumers are in need, Brabu does not hesitate to lend a helping hand.

Thank you and congratulations!

Susan Satur
Executive Director

Happy 15th anniversary!

Your commitment to exceptional care and service
has truly made a difference in our community.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication. We look forward to
our continued partnership and to many more successful years!



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JOURNEY

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staff to expand our organic and environment-friendly healthcare products. They do an amazing job researching new products and listening to our customer base to stock products they want to see on our shelves," said Yuknavage.

Parker remembers that his father, a retired pharmacist always told him to care for the community, "No matter where you live; give people an education, a livable wage, respect, and a workplace that shows appreciation for their efforts, and your business will succeed. Starting with one employee at our



Brabu Pharmacy celebrated their anniversary party in their yard.

opening to the 20-plus employees now is a testament to his philosophy."

Milestones and achievements

Among Brabu Pharmacy's

significant milestones and their first major achievement was helping local elders sign up for Medicare Part D (for prescription drugs). Yuknavage recounts the struggle to get *man'amko* enrolled.

"When we discovered that no one was signing up for this program, we set out to find out why. We learned that part of the reason was that neither the Medicare provider's helpline nor their



Brabu Pharmacy family gestures number 10 as they celebrate their 10th anniversary.



Brabu Pharmacy family poses for a photo during their 9th anniversary party.



Brabu Pharmacy family at Kensington Hotel celebrating their 2018 Christmas Party.



Brabu Pharmacy team poses for a photo at their Gualo Rai branch at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

website included the CNMI in their drop-down menu. At the point when I found out that even the local Social Security office was unable to easily enroll our people, I emailed Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, letting his office know of the hurdles that were preventing our *man'amko* from enrolling. Congressman Kilili immediately put together a task force in Washington, D.C. to address the issue. Once this was completed, the CNMI went from nearly zero enrollees to over 250 in the first year. Several agencies still refer patients to us to help them get enrolled."

Another proud moment came during the COVID-19 pandemic when Brabu's pharmacy technicians became the first in the Pacific region to be certified to administer vaccinations. This initiative allowed the community to receive vaccines directly at the pharmacy, enhancing local healthcare access.

Overcoming challenges

The journey was not without its challenges. Financial difficulties in the first year tested their resolve, but Parker and Yuknavage's risk-taking spirit and community support pulled them through. "We knew there was a real need in our community, so we pushed forward, and it paid off," said Yuknavage.

Parker recalls these early struggles.

"Finances were tight, and

the economy was weak in 2009. But Kathy's marketing efforts and our commitment to providing an alternative for prescriptions and healthcare products helped us turn the corner." Yuknavage's decision to cash out her retirement to cover initial shortfalls proved to be a pivotal move, cementing their commitment to the community's needs.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Brabu was the first pharmacy to offer curb-side COVID rapid assay testing. "Our staff have been fantastic. They helped develop our biohazard safety precautions and because of this we were able to assist the CHCC Department of Public Health in tracing potential exposure routes," said Yuknavage.

Parker recalls, "We were also one of the first organizations to require masks and sanitize our surfaces to protect not only our patients but our staff as well. Even though we have always offered delivery, during the COVID-19 epidemic, this was extremely helpful to many of our patients who were homebound or in quarantine during lockdown."

Community contributions

Brabu Pharmacy's contributions to the community are many. From partnering with local agencies and organizations including the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., Center for Living Independently in the CNMI,

Congratulations

on your 15th anniversary and this remarkable milestone!

Your unwavering commitment to quality service and high standards has been invaluable to our community. Here's to a future filled with continued achievements!

FROM THE MANAGEMENT & STAFF OF

CHONG'S CORPORATION

AIR-CONDITIONING & REFRIGERATION EQUIPMENT, SALES & SERVICE
TEL: (670) 234-6560 • FAX: (670) 234-5579
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Guam Office: Universal Air Supply, Inc.
Tel: (671) 647-8823/24/25 Fax: (671) 647-8821

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Commonwealth Cancer Association, American Red Cross-NMI Chapter, Aging Center, Mariana Islands Nature Alliance, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan's office, and all medical clinics on the island to donating medications and supplies to the relief shelters after ty-

phoon, the pharmacy has been a pillar of support. Their "Change for the Better" program helps cover medication costs for those unable to afford them, demonstrating their commitment to health equity.

Yuknavage comments, "You may have seen our 'Change for the Better' container at the cash register. Any money collected, including larger donations

from some incredible physicians, helps pay for those who are uninsured or who fall through the cracks of the Medicaid program, especially when the medication is for treating acute illness or infections. That's what the program goes toward."

Staff achievements

For Parker and Yuknavage, the most special moments often involve their staff's achievements. Parker fondly recalls when Patsy-lynn Cepeda, the first staff member to earn a Doctorate in Pharmacy and return to work at Brabu. "Her journey was challenging in the beginning, but we worked with Patsy and kept encouraging her. Her success made us incredibly proud," he says.

"In the end, she sailed through, even managing to get married and have twins while completing her degree. We cried a bit when we learned she passed her board exams," Yuknavage adds.

Yuknavage highlights the pride she feels in their continuous learning culture. Brabu has mentored numerous pharmacy technicians and supported staff in pursuing higher education. "We pay for full time staff's study hours and encourage pro-

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American
Red Cross

On behalf of the American Red Cross of the Northern Mariana Islands, we extend our heartfelt congratulations as you celebrate your 15th anniversary!

Over the years, Brabu Pharmacy and Wellness Center has become more than just a place to fill prescriptions; it has grown into a cornerstone of support and care for countless individuals and families across our islands. Your dedication to providing quality healthcare services, personalized attention, and community outreach initiatives has made a profound impact on the lives of the people of the CNMI.

In times of need, Brabu Pharmacy has been our trusted partner, working hand in hand with the American Red Cross to ensure access to essential medications and healthcare resources for our community members. Brabu has consistently supported our annual fundraising events like the Red Cross Walkathon and Club 200 that has enabled us to carry out our humanitarian mission on Saipan, Rota and Tinian.

We look forward to many more years of collaboration and shared success as we continue to work together towards building a healthier and more resilient community.

Congratulations once again on this significant 15th anniversary milestone!

John Hirsh

Executive Director

American Red Cross of the Northern Mariana Islands

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CONGRATULATIONS

on your 15th anniversary!

Your hard work and outstanding service have made a lasting impact on our community. Wishing you continued success and prosperity!



From the management and staff of

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Congratulations
Brabu
Pharmacy and Wellness Center
on your 15th anniversary!



**Your dedication to excellent service and care has made a significant impact to our community.
Thank you for being a trusted partner in health and wellness. Here's to many more years of success!**

From the management and staff of



SAIPAN
SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST CLINIC

Saipan SDA Clinic exists to provide excellent dental care, health education and outreach programs in order to extend the healing ministry of Christ in the Islands of the Commonwealth of Northern Marianas.

Congratulations

on reaching your 15th anniversary!
Your dedication to excellent care and service
has greatly benefited our community.
Cheers to many more successful years ahead!

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Call **670-323-9000**
www.islandskinsolutions.com
Marina Height II Building, First Floor

Wishing you a heartfelt

Congratulations

on your 15th anniversary!

Your exceptional service and dedication to our community are truly commendable.
Here's to many more years of success and growth!

From the management and staff of

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

JOURNEY

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fessional growth," Yuknavage explains, adding that their staff's development is integral to Brabu's success. "I'm proud to say that one of our staff will be graduating with a BS degree in Environmental science this June from Oregon State. This makes me extremely proud as a fellow Environmental Scientist. Currently, we have four new students working with us or volunteering this summer who are interested in pursuing a career in Pharmacy."

"Over the years, we have had dozens of individuals train with us. We have mentored and helped certify over a dozen Pharmacy Technicians and have helped enroll staff in online training or at Northern Marianas College. We have also encouraged local staff to complete their doctorate in Pharmacy," said Parker. "Ultimately, we would both like to retire someday and see Brabu and our staff grow and continue to provide care for the community."

Yuknavage expresses the hope that they all come back to our islands, "I hope we can get someone interested in pursuing a career

in accounting. I keep asking people to stream the movie 'The Accountant' to show what a sexy profession it can be. I can say with a bit of chagrin, that it's not working. I need a new tactic," she jests.

Tanya Concepcion, a current employee of Brabu remarks, "Being part of the Brabu family has been a blessing for me because Ted and Kathy allow us to grow within the company to better ourselves for the community and our families. The passion and commitment that they show to their staff is their way of clearly expressing how much value they see in our people."

Memorable experiences & successes

"My best experiences are when I am able to obtain a rare or very expensive medication for a patient that I know is lifesaving. On more than one occasion, after spending several hours or even days of phone calls and e-mails, getting an insurance override for a patient's lifesaving medication is incredibly rewarding. Those are the successes that I remember most," said Parker.

"I'm proud to see that our staff have adopted the same tenacity. They also spend hours on the phone or online getting coupons or insurance over-rides for our patients," said Yuknavage.

Guiding principles and future aspirations

At the heart of Brabu Pharmacy's operations is a commitment to patient well-being and environmental consciousness. "A patient's well-being is always first. Everything else is second," said Parker. Yuknavage adds that creating a positive, respectful workplace is crucial, as is their commitment to eco-friendly practices. "Ted is great at keeping things light, we share a common sense of humor. No one wants to work in a boring cold setting, so creating the right atmosphere and choosing a good music stream is critical."

"We also really try to avoid harming our environment. We do our best to carry organic products; especially those that won't harm our coral reef, and we recycle and reuse items as much as possible to avoid adding to our landfill. Plastic bags have never been provided at Brabu and staff get 'the lecture' if they bring back lunch in one, or with plastic utensils inside."

Looking ahead, Parker envisions expanding mobile clinics and vaccination services. "We have conducted a few mobile clinics and offered in-house vaccination services to the Center for Living Independently in the CNMI, and to the staff of some private companies," he says. Yuknavage, with characteristic humor, adds, "And get better parking. Just kidding, ...not."

Gratitude and acknowledgements

As they celebrate 15 years, Parker and Yuknavage extend their gratitude to Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan's office for their support and for their persistence in getting the pharmacy suppliers and insurance companies to work with them so they can provide medication at a reasonable price, medical providers for their trust, and David Burger for his accounting advice. Most importantly, they thank their staff, the backbone of Brabu, for their hard work and dedication.

"Not only have they mastered their roles, they help train new staff. Everyone helps newcomers feel at home and part of the team. Being part of the Brabu familia keeps us all community-focused," said Yuknavage.

Brabu Pharmacy's 15-year journey is a story of resilience, community care and involvement, and continuous growth. With an unwavering commitment to the islands, its people, and their Brabu family, Brabu Pharmacy looks forward to many more years of genuine service straight from the heart.



Congratulations to Brabu Pharmacy on celebrating their 15th year anniversary of providing the best quality health care products to the people of the CNMI.

Thank you for your long-standing commitment to environmental stewardship and for supporting MINA's mission to promote the conservation of our natural resources.

From the board of directors, staff, and management of MINA

WASHINGTON, D.C.—
Delegate Uifa'atali Amata Radewagen (R-A. Samoa) is commemorating the 80th anniversary of D-Day, and honoring the heroic life and sacrifice of Henry Saaga, who took part in storming Omaha Beach.

The D-Day “Operation Overlord” of June 6, 1944, was a tremendous risk by Allied leadership, and took remarkable bravery and loss of life to establish the beachheads, which led to subsequently liberating Europe from the control of Nazi Germany. The effort was strategically led from England by General Dwight Eisenhower, famously telling the troops: “The eyes of the world are upon you.”

CHIEF OF STATE LUIA SA'AGA, had moved from American Samoa to Honolulu. The family was present during the attack on Pearl Harbor, and had performed music together the evening before. Henry Sa'aga of Utulei Village and Uifa'atali Peter T. Coleman of Pago Pago Village, also in Oahu at the time, knew each other and were both from Ma'oputasi District.

Despite his young age, then 15 and a high school sophomore, he enlisted in

» Highlights

American Samoa's heroic soldier Henry Saaga

evening before. Henry Saaga of Utulei Village and Uifa'atali Peter T. Coleman of Pago Pago Village, also in Oahu at the time, knew each other and were both from Ma'oputasi District.

Radewagen said, "Last year, I visited Normandy, including the landing sites, memorials and cemeteries from D-Day. As an American Samoan, the most special time was seeing Henry Saaga's heroic name enshrined on the Wall of the Missing at the beautiful memorial in France. Henry Saaga was eighteen years old in 1944, but he had answered the call to serve, and sacrificed all for country and the cause of freedom. He was among the brave forces that took the Normandy beaches, then one of the thousands who sacrificed all during the fighting in the hedgerows. God bless the memory of these brave troops who liberated Europe and give millions of people

Despite his young age, then 15 and a high school sophomore, he enlisted in early 1942 in the Hawaii Territorial Guard. His family last saw him that Spring as he was sent to basic training. He was sent overseas in 1944, landed on Omaha Beach, and fought in the hedgerows. A July 1, 1944, report states the following: "Pvt. Saaga...displayed extraordinary courage and bravery without respect for his own life when he vaulted an enemy occupied hedgerow to attack, alone, an enemy MG position whose fire was pinning the patrol down. As a result of his act, the patrol was able to move out and return to their own lines. When last heard of Pvt. Saaga was throwing hand grenades and firing his rifle. At this time Pvt. Saaga is still missing." (PR)

UOG: Apply for the Pedro 'Doc' Sanchez Professional Scholarship

The University of Guam School of Business and Public Administration is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for the Pedro "Doc" Sanchez Professional Scholarship for employees of the government of Guam intending to enroll in the upcoming 2024 Fa-nuchånan (Fall) Semester.

Established in 1988 under Public Law 19-45, the "Doc Sanchez" scholarship program has been instrumental in helping government of Guam employees pursue bachelor's or master's degrees in public administration and related fields.

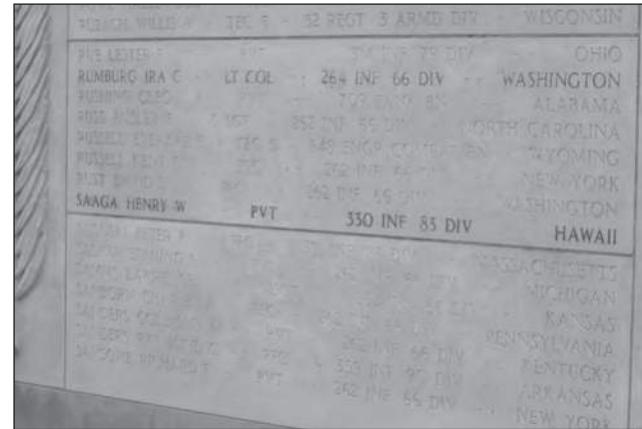
The scholarship honors the legacy of Pedro "Doc" Sanchez, a distinguished educator, historian, and public administrator who ardently advocated for the advancement of an educated government workforce.

For this cycle, eight total scholarships are available: four scholarships for undergraduate students and four scholarships for graduate students.

these generations of freedom.”

Henry Saaga's actions earned the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. He was a singer and musician who played multiple instruments, and a three-sport athlete. He and his family, part of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints,

Radewagen commemorates the 80th anniversary of D-Day



Henry Saaga's name enshrined on the Memorial.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2nd Floor Arrival Bldg.
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 |
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax: (670) 234-5926
Website: www.cnmports.com

**Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport
“Car Rental Concessions”
Request for Proposals
for: CPA-RFP-006-24**

CPA Concession No. CRR-2024-11

CPA Concession No. CRR-2024-12

CPA Concession No. CRR-2024-13

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (“CPA” or “Authority”) is soliciting proposals for the award of three (3) concessions granting the privilege to provide motor vehicle rental services to the traveling public (including the provision of insurance related to motor vehicles rented in the operation of such motor vehicle rental services) at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport (“Car Rental Concession”). The successful proposer will be expected to provide motor vehicle rental services in accordance with its concession and concession agreement at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport for a period of three years with an option upon entering into a concession agreement with the Authority.

The date of issuance of CPA-RFP-006-24 is **May 20, 2024**, and it can be obtained at the issuing office CPA Administration Office, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950. Second floor of Arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday to Friday. CPA offices are closed every other Monday for austerity reasons and also on holidays.

Proposals must be addressed to Commonwealth Ports Authority, Attn: Car Rental Concessions Evaluation Committee, CPA Administration Office, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950; and submitted to and received by the CPA Administration Office (second floor of arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport) **by or before 4:00 p.m. on June 21, 2024**, at which time the proposal period shall expire. Proposals must be accompanied with a non-refundable administrative fee of \$100.00. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, or cashier's check payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority to defray the costs associated with handling and considering the proposal. Proposals are not required to include a prepaid minimum concession fee.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to cancel this RFP and to reject any and all proposals in accordance with its Concession Regulations (NMIAC Chapter 40-70).

**LEO B. TUDELA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**


**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

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P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
Website: www.cnmiports.com



Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport

“Car Rental Concessions”

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

for: CPA-RFP-004-24

- CPA Concession No. CRS-2024-01
- CPA Concession No. CRS-2024-04

- CPA Concession No. CRS-2024-02
- CPA Concession No. CRS-2024-05

- CPA Concession No. CRS-2024-03
- CPA Concession No. CRS-2024-06

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (“CPA” or “Authority”) is soliciting proposals for the award of six (6) concessions granting the privilege to provide motor vehicle rental services to the traveling public (including the provision of insurance related to motor vehicles rented in the operation of such motor vehicle rental services) at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport (“Car Rental Concession”). The successful proposer will be expected to provide motor vehicle rental services in accordance with its concession and concession agreement at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport for a period of three years with an option upon entering into a concession agreement with the Authority.

The date of issuance of CPA-RFP-004-24 is **May 20, 2024**, and it can be obtained at the issuing office: CPA Administration Office, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, Second floor of Arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday. CPA offices are closed every other Monday for austerity reasons and also on holidays.

Proposals must be addressed to Commonwealth Ports Authority, Attn: Car Rental Concessions Evaluation Committee, CPA Administration Office, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950; and submitted to and received by the CPA Administration Office (second floor of arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport) **by or before 4:00 p.m. on June 21, 2024**, at which time the proposal period shall expire. Proposals must be accompanied with a non-refundable administrative fee of \$100.00. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, or cashier's check payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority to defray the costs associated with handling and considering the proposal. Proposals are not required to include a prepaid minimum concession fee.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to cancel this RFP and to reject any and all proposals in accordance with its Concession Regulations (NMIAC Chapter 40-70).

LEO B. TUDELA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2nd Floor Arrival Bldg.
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
Website: www.cnmiports.com

**Francisco Manglona Borja/Tinian International Airport
“Car Rental Concessions”
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
for: CPA-RFP-005-24**

CPA Concession No. CRT-2024-07
CPA Concession No. CRT-2024-08
CPA Concession No. CRT-2024-09
CPA Concession No. CRT-2024-10

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (“CPA” or “Authority”) is soliciting proposals for the award of four (4) concessions granting the privilege to provide motor vehicle rental services to the traveling public (including the provision of insurance related to motor vehicles rented in the operation of such motor vehicle rental services) at the Francisco Manglona Borja/Tinian International Airport (“Car Rental Concession”). The successful proposer will be expected to provide motor vehicle rental services in accordance with its concession and concession agreement at the Francisco Manglona Borja/Tinian International Airport for a period of three years with an option upon entering into a concession agreement with the Authority.

The date of issuance of CPA-RFP-005-24 is **May 20, 2024**, and it can be obtained at the issuing office: CPA Administration Office, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, Second floor of Arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday. CPA offices are closed every other Monday for austerity reasons and also on holidays.

Proposals must be addressed to Commonwealth Ports Authority, Attn: Car Rental Concessions Evaluation Committee, CPA Administration Office, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950; and submitted to and received by the CPA Administration Office (second floor of arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport) **by or before 4:00 p.m. on June 21, 2024**, at which time the proposal period shall expire. Proposals must be accompanied with a non-refundable administrative fee of \$100.00. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, or cashier's check payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority to defray the costs associated with handling and considering the proposal. Proposals are not required to include a prepaid minimum concession fee.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to cancel this RFP and to reject any and all proposals in accordance with its Concession Regulations (NMIAC Chapter 40-70).

LEO B. TUDELA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

THE WAVE MAKER: Coast Guardsman Naden's journey from Malessos to marine conservation

In light of World Coral Reef Awareness Day, we're celebrating one of our own who's making a difference

for the reefs locally. Beneath the vast expanse of Guam's azure skies, where the endless ocean meets vibrant

coral sands, Petty Officer 2nd Class William Naden is making significant strides in marine conservation.

ROBERT T. TORRES F0197

Attorney at law
5960 Plata Drive
P.O. Box 500730
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 234-78459
Facsimile: (670) 234-5749

E-mail: robert.torres@ttlawgroup.com

Attorney for Petitioner Brigitte D. Ventura.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF YOLANDA S. DELOS SANTOS, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent, DATE: JUNE 20, 2024 TIME: 10:00 A.M. JUDGE: JOSEPH N. CAMACHO

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE YOLANDA S. DELOS SANTOS OR HER ESTATE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that BREIGITTE D. VENTURA has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Island to issue a Petition to Admit Estate with Limited Valus/Assets to Probate Proceedings and for Appointment of Administratrix for the Estate of Yolanda S. Delos Santos, the decedent. The Proposed Administratrix is Maria Gerffy T. Torres, decedent's close family friend. The Attorney for the Petitioner/Proposed Administratrix is Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, whose address is 5962 Plata Drive P.O. Box 500730, Saipan MP 96950.

The hearing on the Petition is scheduled to be heard on the date and at the time set forth above at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear that this hearing. Any and all persons, creditors, or entities having claims against the deceased or his Estate are hereby required by law to file their claim with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of this publication or the claims will be barred. A copy of your claim should also be sent to the attorney for the Petitioner, ROBERT T. TORRES, Attorney at Law, at the address above indicated.

Dated this 5th day of June 2024.

/s/
Clerk of Court/ Deputy Clerk of Court

ROBERT T. TORRES

ATTORNEY AT LAW
5960 Plata Drive
P.O. Box 500730 CK
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 234-7859
Facsimile: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Petitioner Frances C. Muna,

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MANUEL REYES MUNA, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent, DATE: JUNE 20, 2024 TIME: 10:00 A.M. JUDGE: JOSEPH N. CAMACHO

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE MANUEL REYES MUNA OR HIS ESTATE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that FRANCES C. MUNA has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Island to issue a Verified Petition to Admit Estate into Probate and Appointment of Administratrix for the Estate of Manuel Reyes Muna, the decedent. The Proposed Administratrix is FRANCES C. MUNA, The Attorney for the Petitioner is Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, whose address is 5962 Plata Drive P.O. Box 500730, Saipan MP 96950.

The hearing on the Petition is scheduled to be heard on the date and at the time set forth above at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear that this hearing. Any and all persons, creditors, or entities having claims against the deceased or his Estate are hereby required by law to file their claim with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of this publication or the claims will be barred. A copy of your claim should also be sent to the attorney for the Petitioner, ROBERT T. TORRES, Attorney at Law, at the address above indicated.

Dated this 22nd day of May 2024.

/s/
Clerk of Court/ Deputy Clerk of Court

ROBERT T. TORRES

ATTORNEY AT LAW
5960 Plata Drive
P.O. Box 500730 CK
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 234-7859
Facsimile: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Petitioner Maria Pangelinan Reyes,

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF FRANCISCO SABLAN PANGELINAN, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent, DATE: JUNE 20, 2024 TIME: 10:00 A.M. JUDGE: JOSEPH N. CAMACHO

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE FRANCISCO SABLAN PANGELINAN OR HIS ESTATE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that MARIA PANGELINAN REYES has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Island to issue a Petition to Admit Estate into Probate and for appointment of Administratrix for the Estate of Francisco Sablan Pangelinan, the decedent. The Proposed Administratrix is Juana "Judi" C Fujihara, Petitioner's second cousin, The Attorney for the Petitioner/Proposed Administratrix is Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, whose address is 5962 Plata Drive P.O. Box 500730, Saipan MP 96950.

The hearing on the Petition is scheduled to be heard on the date and at the time set forth above at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear that this hearing. Any and all persons, creditors, or entities having claims against the deceased or his Estate are hereby required by law to file their claim with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of this publication or the claims will be barred. A copy of your claim should also be sent to the attorney for the Petitioner, ROBERT T. TORRES, Attorney at Law, at the address above indicated.

Dated this 30th day of May, 2024.

/s/
Clerk of Court/ Deputy Clerk of Court



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962

E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cnmiports.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT #07-2024(b)

Opening date: May 20, 2024

Closing date: June 07, 2024

Location: **SAIPAN**

SALARY

PL 6/1 to 6/12 (\$9.27/hr to \$15.85/hr)
PL 5/1 (\$8.83/hr)

Location: **TINIAN**

SALARY

Position(s): (4) AOA Controller/Ground Maintenance-I

PL 5/1 to 5/12 (\$8.83/hr to \$15.10/hr)

Location: **ROTA**

SALARY

Position(s): (1) Custodial/Maintenance-I
(2) AOA Controller/Ground Maintenance-I

PL 2/1 to 2/12 (\$7.63/hr to \$13.04/hr)
PL 5/1 to 5/12 (\$8.83/hr to \$15.10/hr)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the **CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office, Tinian International Airport, or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport**. Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10-year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport is no later than **5:00 P.M. on Friday, June 07, 2024**.

Detailed information on qualifications and position descriptions for the above positions may be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., except on holidays and austerity, at the CPA Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin, Office at the Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at lorna.robert@cnmiports.com and hrspecialist@cnmiports.com or by phone at (670)237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

LEO B. TUDELA
Executive Director



A native of Malessos and a dedicated boatswain's mate at U.S. Coast Guard Station Apra Harbor, Naden has emerged as a pivotal figure in community leadership and environmental stewardship. From his humble beginnings along the picturesque shores of southern Guam, Naden's life has been deeply intertwined with the rhythms of the sea. This profound connection to Guam's waters has not only shaped his career path but also ignited a lifelong commitment to environmental protection, a commitment he pursued in college at the University of Guam. As an enthusiastic waterman, his passion for the ocean is a testament to his efforts to preserve its beauty and vitality.

From his humble beginnings along the picturesque shores of southern Guam, Naden's life has been deeply intertwined with the rhythms of the sea. This profound connection to Guam's waters has not only shaped his career path but also ignited a lifelong commitment to environmental protection, a commitment he pursued in college at the University of Guam. As an enthusiastic waterman, his passion for the ocean is a testament to his efforts to preserve its beauty and vitality.

In 2017, driven by a desire to improve the health of his local marine environment, Naden spearheaded the Merizo Pier Cleanup. What began as a small-scale endeavor to remove

harmful debris from a specific area of the pier has evolved into a comprehensive initiative covering the wider marine and coastal areas. Year after year, Naden leads a dedicated team of volunteers—divers, snorkelers, and land-based supporters—to remove

clear debris from a specific area of the pier has evolved into a comprehensive initiative covering the wider marine and coastal areas. Year after year, Naden leads a dedicated team of volunteers—divers, snorkelers, and land-based supporters—to remove

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES (PHS)
MATERNAL, INFANT, CHILD & ADOLESCENT HEALTH PROGRAMS (MICAH)
TITLE V MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH SERVICES

RFP24-CHCC/PHS/MICAH-018

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JUNE 21, 2024 TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)

RE-ANNOUNCEMENT

"NEED ASSESSMENT FOR MICAH PROGRAM"

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE (WWW.CHCC.HEALTH). ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA

CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORA P. ADA

DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID ITB24-BECQ/TIN-42400101

SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 03, 2024 TIME: 09:00 A.M.

"OFFICE SPACE LEASE FOR BECQ TINIAN"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE MUNIS VENDOR SELF SERVICE PORTAL (<https://selfservice@dof.gov.mp/vss>) OR AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT BUILDING NO. 1301, ASCENCION DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE LESSOR MUST COMPLY WITH CNMI PUBLIC LAW 15-23, ARTICLE 5. SECTION 8652 (A-G)

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI REGULATIONS, NMIC SECTION SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ RICHARD V. SALAS
ACTING ADMINISTRATOR, BECQ

/S/ BRIEN S. NICHOLAS JR.
ACTING DIRECTOR, PS

The Micronesian Conservation Coalition recently recognized Naden's relentless commitment with the prestigious Tide Changer Award at the 3rd Annual Ocean Gala, held on May 11, 2024. This recognition is a testament to the community's appreciation for his efforts toward sustainable marine practices.

"Petty Officer Naden exemplifies the spirit of the U.S. Coast Guard through his outstanding skills as a coxswain and his deep commitment to the marine environment. His leadership in training our crew in advanced boat handling and integrating his extensive local knowledge boosts our operational efficiency and strengthens our ties with the community we are privileged to serve," said Capt. Nick Simmons, commander of U.S. Coast Guard Forces Micronesia/Sector Guam.

The Ocean Gala is a vital platform for acknowledging individuals like Naden, whose endeavors significantly impact the community. This year's gala focused on regional projects like the Yap and Guam Manta projects, emphasizing MCC's broad commitment to marine conservation.

Naden is a testament to the power of local initiative and global responsibility. Proudly representing the U.S. Coast Guard and his community's environmental goals, Naden continues to inspire us all to participate in preserving the most critical resource of our planet—the ocean. His story is not merely about personal achievement but a collective call to action, reminding us of the role each of us plays in maintaining the health and beauty of our Blue Continent for generations to come. (PR)

Business

Bigger, better Pepoy's Cafe & Restaurant relocates

By MARK RABAGO

mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
EDITOR

Pepoy's Cafe & Restaurant has relocated to the Joeten Building right across Saipan World Resort and is now more than the triple the size of its former location at the old Armatex Building.

General manager Angel Malasarte said her parents and Pepoy's Cafe & Restaurant founders, Bong and Malou, decided to move the erstwhile Pepoy's Restacafe to the new location to better serve their growing customer base.

"The previous space was becoming too small to accom-



MARK RABAGO

The rechristened Pepoy's Cafe & Restaurant has relocated to the Joeten Building right across Saipan World Resort.



MARK RABAGO

Pepoy's Cafe & Restaurant founders Bong and Malou Malasarte, second and third from left, pose with Fr. Rey Rosal, who blessed the new location last Saturday, and restaurant staff.

Bank of Guam invests in new digital scoreboard at UOG Calvo Fieldhouse



BOG

Pictured, from left, Aljurrell Grape, player, Bank of Guam Men's National Basketball Team; Douglas W. Palmer, Athletic director, University of Guam; Dr. Gena Rojas, interim dean, Enrollment Management and Student Success, University of Guam; Dr. Anita Borja Enriquez, president, University of Guam; Joaquin P. L.G. Cook, president and chief executive officer, Bank of Guam; Lesley Leon Guerrero, senior vice president, chief experience officer, Bank of Guam and vice chair for the University of Guam Board of Regents; and player, Mark Johnson, Bank of Guam Men's National Basketball Team.

HAGATNA, GUAM—Bank of Guam is proud to announce the donation of a LED digital scoreboard at the University of Guam Calvo Fieldhouse. Installation of the new scoreboard was completed earlier this year.

This \$90,000 investment underscores Bank of Guam's ongoing commitment to supporting its local talent and replaces the original scoreboard donated by Bank of Guam more than 15 years ago.

The new scoreboard aims to elevate the experience for spectators, athletes, and event attendees. Boasting high-resolution LED displays, the upgraded replacement boasts all the features of a traditional scoreboard with the added capability for dynamic advertisements, athlete highlights, event announcements, and live video feeds.

"We are proud to continue

our partnership with the University of Guam through this donation. Whether you're an athlete on the court, a performer or one of the thousands of graduates that have walked the stage, we are excited to showcase the pride of our island and the spirit of our community using this upgraded scoreboard and LED display," said BOG president and chief executive officer Joaquin P. L.G. Cook.

This new addition to the UOG Calvo Fieldhouse brings Guam sports to the next level, meeting world class standards for major competitive games and events, such as the International Basketball Federation.

"Our local athletes continue to make their mark on the international courts. Investing in new technology like this gives us the opportunity to enhance our hometown audience experience, demon-

strate our strong support for local sports, and give all our athletes at every level of their development a chance to see themselves on the big screen," said BOG senior vice president and chief experience officer Lesley Leon Guerrero.

Additionally, the new scoreboard also serves as a revenue-generating asset for the University of Guam. Through advertising opportunities, hosting community and school events, and attracting new fans to games and events, the scoreboard creates opportunities for increased engagement and support for UOG athletics and community initiatives.

The new scoreboard includes impressive features and capabilities including a high quality P3.9mm screen, YesTech Series fixed install panels and 80 panels of 4x5 configuration per side. (PR)

modate the increasing number of guests and we wanted to provide a more comfortable and spacious environment. The new location, situated in the Joeten Building in Susupe right across World Resort Saipan, offers better visibility and accessibility, making it easier for our guests to find us and enjoy their dining experience," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

For comparison, the new Pepoy's Cafe & Restaurant can accommodate up to 180 guests, while Pepoy's Restacafe could only fit 50 guests at the most.

"This significant increase allows us to welcome more guests and reduce wait times, ensuring a more pleasant experience for everyone," said the younger Malasarte.

Aside from the dining room that has doubled in size, the relocated Pepoy's Cafe & Restaurant also boasts of several other new amenities including a more spacious private function room for special events and gatherings and perfect for



MARK RABAGO

Pepoy's Cafe & Restaurant will have a \$25 brunch buffet starting this Sunday.

hosting celebrations or corporate events and a swankier karaoke room that is bigger and better equipped than before, providing an enhanced experience for our guests who love to sing and entertain.

Additionally, Malasarte said the bigger and better Pepoy's Cafe & Restaurant offers catering services for events of all sizes and provides bento boxes.

"This ensures our loyal customers can enjoy Pepoy's delicious food wherever they are."

While they will continue to serve their bestsellers like the Special Pepoy's Bulalo and Pepoy's Chicken Chaser, they also have new additions to their already expansive menu like a fresh catch of the day featuring the finest local fish of Saipan.

"This allows our guests to indulge in the freshest fish, prepared to their liking," said Malasarte.

To celebrate Pepoy's Cafe & Restaurant's relocation, they have introduced a Sunday brunch buffet for \$25 and it includes roasted pig from Saipan's best lechonero, Juhn.

For more information on the newly relocated Pepoy's Cafe & Restaurant, call (670) 234-8894 or email at pepoys.restaurant@gmail.com. For any latest news and updates, follow them on Facebook at Pepoy's Restacafe and on Instagram at pepoys_saipan.



MARK RABAGO

Pepoy's Cafe & Restaurant's lechon is made by the best lechonero on island.

Life & Style

YouTube toughens policy on gun videos and youth Critics say proof will be in enforcement

WASHINGTON (AP)—YouTube is changing its policies about firearm videos in an effort to keep potentially dangerous content from reaching underage users.

The video sharing platform owned by Google said Wednesday it will prohibit any videos demonstrating how to remove firearm safety devices. In addition, videos showing homemade guns, automatic weapons and certain firearm accessories like silencers will be restricted to users 18 and older.

The changes take effect June 18 and come after gun safety advocates have repeatedly called on the platform to do more to ensure gun videos aren't making their way to the site's youngest users, potentially traumatizing children or sending them down dark paths of extremism and violence.

Katie Paul, director of the Tech Transparency Project, said the change was welcome

news and a step in the right direction. But she questioned why the platform took so long to issue a new policy, and said her group will look to see how effectively YouTube enforces its new rule.

"Firearms are the number one cause of death for children and teens in America," said Paul, whose group has long sought stronger age controls on online gun videos. "As always with YouTube, the real proof of change is whether the company enforces the policies it has on the books. Until YouTube takes real action to prevent videos about guns and gun violence from reaching minors, its policies remain empty words."

Last year, researchers at Paul's group created YouTube accounts that mimicked the behavior of 9-year-old American boys with a stated interest in video games. The researchers found that YouTube's recommendations system forwarded these accounts graphic videos



The YouTube app is seen on an iPad, March 20, 2018, in Baltimore.

of school shootings, tactical gun training videos and how-to instructions on making firearms fully automatic.

One video featured an elementary school-age girl wielding a handgun; another showed a shooter using a .50 caliber gun to fire on a dummy head filled with lifelike blood and brains. Many of the vid-

eos violated YouTube's own policies against violent or gory content.

Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg last month called on YouTube to stop the proliferation of firearm-related videos to young users, and told the company it was failing to enforce its own policies. On Wednesday, Bragg said

he applauded the company's new policy.

"We have heard firsthand from young individuals that YouTube's algorithm is driving them to the world of illegal and 3D-printed firearms, which is having a direct impact on the safety of Manhattanites," Bragg said in a statement emailed to reporters.

Ice Spice announces highly anticipated debut album 'Y2K' will arrive in July

NEW YORK (AP)—Ice Spice's long-awaited debut album, "Y2K," is almost here.

The Bronx rapper, celebrated for her sweet, lackadaisical flow, will drop her first full-length album on July 26. It is produced by her long-time creative collaborator RIOTUSA, who also worked on her critically acclaimed debut EP, 2023's "Like...?", with its cheeky earworms, "In Ha Mood" and "Munch (Feelin' U)."

He also produced her most recent single, "Gimme A Light," which will be featured on "Y2K." It samples Sean Paul's 2002 dancehall single of a similar name, "Gimme the Light."

Around "Y2K," Ice Spice will tour extensively this summer, spending most of July on the European festival circuit before heading back to North America on July 30, where she will headline Washington, D.C.'s The Anthem.

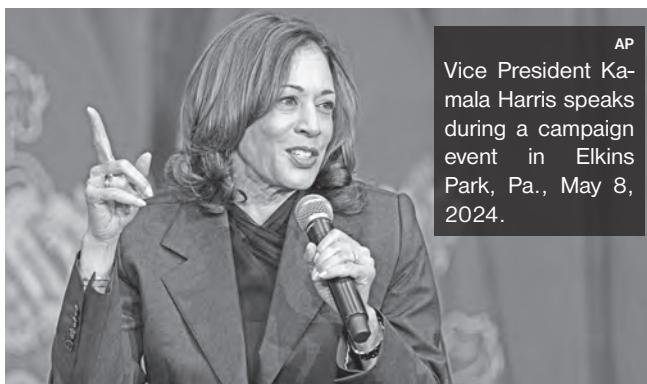
She'll hit many major cities in the U.S. as well as Toronto before concluding Aug. 31 in Miami Beach, Florida. RIOTUSA and rapper Cash Cobain will support.

Ice Spice broke out last year, hitting the Top 10 on Billboard's Hot 100 chart four times: for two collaborations with her hero Nicki Minaj—"Princess Diana" from "Like...?" and "Barbie World" from the blockbuster film—as well as her feature on Taylor Swift's "Karma" and 2023's song of the summer, "Boy's A Liar, Pt. 2" with U.K. hyperpop singer/producer Pink Pantheress.

VP Harris speaks about Trump conviction on Jimmy Kimmel

WASHINGTON (AP)—Vice President Kamala Harris spent part of a Tuesday episode of "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" rehashing how she found out about former President Donald Trump's conviction on 34 felony counts in his criminal hush money trial.

She deflected a light-hearted question from Kimmel about whether the people she watched the verdict with were "pretending to not be happy" when the conviction was an-



AP
Vice President Kamala Harris speaks during a campaign event in Elkins Park, Pa., May 8, 2024.

nounced. She instead spoke of the six-week deliberations

and the 12-person jury, before adding "the reality is, cheaters

don't like getting caught."

Trump, the presumptive Republican presidential nominee, was convicted on all counts related to a scheme during his 2016 presidential campaign to pay off porn actor Stormy Daniels, who said the two had sex. The former president slammed the verdict as politically motivated, and has blamed it on Biden—while seeking to make himself a political martyr in the eyes of supporters, suggesting that if

this could happen to him, similar things might befall them.

Harris' comments came a day after President Joe Biden tore into his predecessor and likely opponent in November's election for sowing doubt in the judicial process,

"It's reckless and dangerous and downright irresponsible for anyone to say that it's rigged just because you don't like the verdict," Biden said at a Greenwich, Connecticut, fundraiser on Monday night.

Flirtation with the past endangers stable present

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to a wonderful man for 17 years. Recently, I reconnected online with an old high school flame. We have been talking about my hometown, which is where he lives. So many things have changed! I moved away more than 30 years ago and have been missing it lately.

While texting, my old BF hinted that he loves me. I have always felt like he was the one who got away, which he now knows. We have discussed it and agree that we need to ignore our feelings. (Neither of us wants to hurt my husband.) The problem is, I can't stop thinking about him and the "what-ifs." It is making me grumpy and picky with my husband, whom I adore. Will this feeling go away, and are we right to try to deny our feelings?

LEAVING WELL ENOUGH ALONE

DEAR LEAVING: Those feelings will not go away as long as you continue to nurture them by communicating with your old high school flame. Considering that you are married to a husband you adore, you are right that you should ignore the temptation to upset the applecart. Deal with this by ending this online romance, which, if you allow it to distract you further, will destroy your marriage. The grass is NOT always greener on the other side.



DEAR ABBY: My younger sister passed away in her 40s two years ago. She was my only sibling, and even though we had

grown apart as we grew older, I was devastated. We'd had our quarrels in the past. She often put me down, but I took it hard when she passed.

My niece took it upon herself to let me know that my sister never liked me. Now I'm not allowed to see my niece's children. My mother babysits them, and I'm not allowed to see my mother if they are around. With my schedule and her babysitting, I get to see Mom only once every couple of months.

I feel so alone, like I have no family left other than my children and husband. I am also mourning the loss of my mother because I am not allowed to see her. I cannot even talk to her on the phone when my niece and her kids are around. Help, please.

BREAKING HEART IN OHIO

DEAR BREAKING HEART: The only person who can help with this sorry situation is your mother, who is allowing herself to be controlled by your niece. If you haven't already, tell your mother how hurtful this situation is for you and ask if she really wants her only LIVING daughter to be estranged from her because your sister disliked you, and her daughter is carrying forward the torch. It's a sad and sorry situation, but nothing will change until she puts her foot down.



DEAR ABBY: We often have potlucks at my place of work. This year, I have been helping organize them. It is glaringly apparent that some people bring substantial dishes to share while others bring something paltry or nothing at all. How do I word

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



an email to an entire staff that would not seem overbearing or aggressive but states, "If you don't bring, you don't eat?"

HUNGRY IN KENTUCKY

DEAR HUNGRY: Here's how: "It has become apparent that some of you bring substantial dishes to the potlucks, while others bring something paltry or nothing at all. Folks, if you don't BRING — you don't EAT!" Sign it, "Love to all, the Happy Organizer."



Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Redemption-minded Celtics set to match up with opportunistic Mavericks



BOSTON (AP)—As the Dallas Mavericks

and Boston Celtics prepare to tip off the NBA Finals, the four biggest names in the series are looking at this moment through different lenses.

Boston's Jayson Tatum and Jaylen Brown—the Celtics' most tenured and scrutinized stars on their roster—see it as a chance at redemption after falling just short two seasons ago and then failing to return last year.

"You think that you're young, if you've been once, you'll continue to keep going," Tatum said. "We realized that last year. We kind of took it for granted at certain moments."

And now?

"I'm not thinking about what it would mean for my legacy or anything like that," he said. "Just excited to play some basketball ... and go out there and try to get the job done."

Dallas' Luka Doncic and Kyrie Irving see it as their first opportunity to make good on a partnership that began late last season after Irving was traded from Brooklyn following a tumultuous run of two-plus seasons with the Nets.

But the duo was still learning to play with each other during their truncated time together last season and didn't make it to the postseason. After a slow start this season,



AP
Boston Celtics forward Jayson Tatum (0) reacts after making a basket during the first half of Game 4 of the NBA Eastern Conference basketball finals against the Indiana Pacers, Monday, May 27, 2024, in Indianapolis.

they found cohesion after the All-Star break and emerged from a deep Western Conference field.

For Irving, it has been a reminder that success can be fleeting. He won his lone championship with Cleveland in 2016 and has played with three teams over the past eight years. His time in Dallas has reinvigorated him.

"These young guys are very hungry. They want a championship. I want a championship," he said. "So our feelings are very mutual. But I've always reminded them that this

is a process. Failure is going to be part of this, too. Get it out your mind that this is about to be a clean sweep or everything is about to feel good throughout this journey and all that."

"I'm just very real, very honest. That's what's helped me grow as a leader."

Doncic credits the partnership with Irving for uncorking the potential of a team that entered the postseason as a fifth seed.

"His leadership is amazing," Doncic said. "The way he connects us. I think me and Kyrie are the leaders of this team, but

he's the one that's been in the Finals. He's the one that won in the Finals. He's the one that is really leading it."

They'll matchup with a Boston team playing like a group that has learned from its recent shortcomings. That was exhibited during a 64-win regular season that established it as a favorite to raise the franchise's 18th championship banner entering the postseason.

Through the first three rounds, the Celtics have met the challenge, losing just two games along the way under

the guidance of second-year coach Joe Mazzulla.

They've also benefited from an offseason breakup of its roster that saw longtime emotional leader Marcus Smart and former NBA Sixth Man of the Year Malcolm Brogdon traded in favor of 7-footer Kristaps Porzingis and Jrue Holiday, who won a championship with Milwaukee in 2021.

Brown said a core that features seven players from the 2022 team that lost in the Finals to Golden State, is up to the challenge.

"I think this is a special

group. I really do," Brown said. "We've been able to go through the experiences of having success but not having success at the same time. I think to solidify the ultimate goal is to get over the hump and win. I think that will add a lot to our legacy. But as of right now, that story is kind of still untold."

COACHING PERSPECTIVES

This stage is nothing new to Mavericks coach Jason Kidd, who is in the Finals for the fifth time as a player or coach.

He has experienced lows, such as losing back-to-back trips to the Finals in 2002 and 2003 as a player with the New Jersey Nets. He has also seen success, earning his lone title as a player with Dallas in 2011 at age 38 and one as an assistant on the Lakers 2020 championship team.

The biggest lesson he has taken away is to approach it like business and be ready to live with the results. That has been his message to his team throughout these playoffs.

"This is the best of the best at the highest level," Kidd said. "It's fun. That's what the Finals are all about, is seeing what team is going to step forward and take advantage of mistakes."

Mazzulla was an assistant on Ime Udoka's staff in 2022. What he learned from that experience is that the details of winning never change, even on this stage.

"The toughest team will win," Mazzulla said. "The team that makes the most plays will win. The team that can execute the details at a high level will win. It's no different."

FRIENDS AND COMPETITORS

Irving is ready for what he expects to be an icy greeting from Boston's home crowd for Game 1 on Thursday.

Celtics fans haven't held a high opinion of him since he ended two disappointing seasons in Boston by leaving for the Nets and joining Kevin Durant in free agency in 2019.

He then rankled the Boston faithful even more when he flipped his middle finger at fans after making a shot during Brooklyn's first round playoff series loss to the Celtics in 2022. But he said he is looking forward to matching up with "brothers" and former teammates Tatum and Brown.

"They've gotten tremendously better. They've led their team to this point. So I'm proud of them," Irving said. "I'm looking forward to the competition because this is what we've all strived for since we were kids, basketball at this level playing against the best of the best."

NBA Finals were too late for Luka to watch as a kid, now, he's in them

BOSTON (AP)—Luka Doncic didn't stay up all night to watch NBA Finals games as a kid. They usually started at something like 3 a.m. in his native Slovenia. He had school to get to a few hours later. He'd wake up and find out who won.

Make no mistake, though: Doncic was paying attention.

"Every kid who plays basketball dreams about this," Doncic said. "I was one of them."

Dreams become reality for Doncic on Thursday night, when the 25-year-old makes his NBA Finals debut for the Dallas Mavericks as they take on the Boston Celtics in Game 1 of this year's title series. He could become the first player to win a scoring title and a championship in the same season since Shaquille O'Neal in 2000, and a title surely would only add to the argument that

Doncic—who leads all players in this postseason in points, rebounds and assists—may be the best player in the game right now.

"Amazing. First time here. Hopefully it's not the last," Doncic said Wednesday at NBA Finals media day in Boston. "But never take it for granted. You never know if you are going to come back, so just enjoy the experience."

Doncic—who became a father for the first time this season, calling that development "the greatest thing in the world"—is a global corporation by himself, a player who speaks four languages fluently and has an enormous following everywhere. And a championship would only add to his rapidly growing legend.

"This is going to be the international finals," said Kyrie Irving, Doncic's backcourt mate in Dallas. "Everybody's

going to be watching. Every finals is international, but the world is watching."

He didn't have to clarify why. Yes, the NBA Finals have long been available in more than 200 countries and territories, broadcast in something like 50 different languages and dialects. And it's hardly a new thing for foreign players to star on the NBA's biggest stage; two of the past three NBA Finals MVPs were Greece's Giannis Antetokounmpo for Milwaukee in 2021 and Serbia's Nikola Jokic for Denver last year.

"Luka is at a spectacular, stratospheric level," Hall of Famer Pau Gasol said at an event in Spain this week. "What he has done ... is within the reach of very few in the history of this sport."

The numbers back up what Gasol is saying.

Doncic is averaging 28.7 points per game in his six regular seasons; only Michael Jordan and Wilt Chamberlain—both at 30.1—have a higher career average. He's the only player in NBA history to have averages of at least eight assists and eight rebounds per game. He's one of two players with at least 10,000 points, 3,000 rebounds and 3,000 assists through his first 400 career games; Oscar Robertson is the other.

"Game's too simple, too easy," Mavericks coach Jason Kidd said late in the regular season, when asked why voters haven't rewarded Doncic with an MVP award yet. "He makes it look too easy. Unfortunately, that's what happens with some of the greats ... we take for granted their talent."

Doncic wants no part of talk that winning is easy. He may make it look easy—he

had a league-best 73-point game this season, 13 different games of scoring at least 40 points in the regular season, and that number could have been even higher considering he scored exactly 39 points on eight other occasions.

Coaches in his native Slovenia call him the best player in the world, especially after his exploits in Olympic, European championship and World Cup play in recent years. Opposing international coaches have done the same.

"When you talk about basketball IQ, everybody has different levels," Kidd said Wednesday. "When you look at Luka's level of understanding the game, time and score, who's on the floor, he is at the head of the class in that sense. When you look at the stage, he's not afraid of the stage, of the moment. Successful or not, he loves that moment. ... We're playing in the Finals, because of his IQ and his willingness to step up on that stage and not be afraid to fail."

Stopping Doncic in these finals is not an option, Celtics coach Joe Mazzulla said. Containing is the goal.

"You've just got to be very aware of what you're willing to live with and what you're willing to take away and when it's time to adjust," Mazzulla said. "There's not one coverage. There's not one player. It's going to take multiple coverages. It's going to take multiple players. It's going to take a team effort."

The numbers don't just happen, Doncic insists. Nor do the wins. Doncic was a proven pro before he even got to the NBA after starring as a teenager for Real Madrid, a club he has remained very close with. But his star has continued shining brighter in each of his NBA seasons—and now, kids in Slovenia will be waking up over the next couple weeks to see how their hero did in the finals.

"It's very hard to win," Doncic said. "You watch a lot of film and go to work. And it's very hard. I don't think people understand how hard it is to win games in this league, especially in the playoffs. So, I think we earned to be here. We deserved that. Because every game we're playing in the playoffs, it's really hard to win."

Arenado homers to help give Cardinals 4-2 win over Astros


HOUSTON

(AP)—Nolan Arenado homered, Alec Burleson added an RBI double to back up a solid start by Miles Mikolas and the St. Louis Cardinals beat the Houston Astros 4-2 on Wednesday.

Burleson's hit made it 3-0 in the fifth inning and Arenado added an insurance run in the sixth after the Astros got within 1 in the bottom of the fifth.

Mikolas (4-6) allowed five hits and two runs in six innings for the win. Ryan Helsley pitched a perfect ninth for his 20th save.

Yainer Diaz homered for a third straight game and Trey Cabbage hit his first home run of the season, but the Astros were unable to complete the series sweep on a day when top hitters Kyle Tucker and Alex Bregman sat out with injuries.

RED SOX 9, BRAVES 0

BOSTON (AP)—Nick Pivetta combined with two relievers for a one-hit shutout and Rafael Devers hit two homers and drove in three runs as Boston beat Atlanta.

Pivetta (3-4) worked seven innings and allowed Atlanta's only hit—a leadoff single by Austin Riley in the fourth inning. The 31-year-old right-hander struck out nine and finished one strikeout shy of his season high, against the Seattle Mariners on March 29.

Devers hit a solo home run in the second inning and a two-run shot in the seventh for the 17th multi-homer game of his career and first since July 14, 2023, against the Chicago Cubs. He has 13 homers this season.

PHILLIES 2, BREWERS 0

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Aaron Nola tossed two-hit ball over seven shutout innings and Nick Castellanos hit a two-run homer to send Philadelphia off to London with the best record in the National League after a win over Milwaukee.

The Phillies completed the three-game sweep of the NL Central leaders and improved to 44-19 overall as they head overseas for a weekend set against the New York Mets.

Nola (8-2) struck out five, walked none and has almost seemed like a bargain this season for the NL East leaders after signing a \$172 million, seven-year contract in the offseason.

REDS 12, ROCKIES 7

DENVER (AP)—Jonathan India hit his fourth career grand slam to cap a two-out, six-run rally in the ninth inning and Cincinnati beat Colorado to sweep the three-

game series.

Spencer Steer began the comeback with a two-run homer off Jalen Beeks (2-3), who hit TJ Friedl with a pitch leading off the ninth. After two singles and a walk loaded the bases, India blasted a pitch from Angel Chivilli for his second slam this season.

Friedl and Jeimer Candelario also went deep, Elly De La Cruz had three hits and Fernando Cruz (3-5) pitched an inning in relief for Cincinnati, which has won four straight.

GIANTS 9, DIAMONDBACKS 3

PHOENIX (AP)—Wilmer Flores' grand slam highlighted a six-run outburst in the third inning and San Francisco snapped a six-game losing streak with a win over Arizona.

Heliot Ramos added a two-run homer in the third off Jordan Montgomery (3-4), whose ERA rose to 6.80 in his ninth start since signing with the Diamondbacks late in spring training.

Ramos reached base six times with two hits and four walks. Flores, who had one home run in 50 games entering Wednesday, added a sacrifice fly in the ninth for his fifth RBI, and Jorge Soler homered in the eighth off Brandon Hughes as the Giants moved into third place in the NL West, a half-game ahead of the Diamondbacks.

METS 9, NATIONALS 1

WASHINGTON (AP)—Luis Torrens hit two homers in a game for the second time in his career and Francisco Lindor added a solo shot as the New York Mets completed a three-game sweep of Washington.

The Mets batted around in the sixth inning, sending 10 men to the plate, scoring six times on seven hits, including two home runs and two doubles. They now head to London after winning five of their last seven.

Torrens launched his first homer of the season, a 398-foot shot to right-center field off Nationals starter Patrick Corbin (1-7) in the third to put the Mets in the lead, 1-0. It was Torrens' first homer since Oct. 5, 2022, with the Mariners against Detroit.

RAYS 5, MARLINS 3

MIAMI (AP)—Isaac Paredes doubled twice and drove in three runs and Tampa Bay beat Miami Marlins to sweep their two-game series.

Brandon Lowe had two hits and an RBI for the Rays, who have won 23 of 26 against Miami since the start of 2019.

Rays outfielder Randy Arozarena walked twice and singled in his first three plate appearances, extending his



got back to .500 with their third victory in four games. Héctor Neris (6-0) got three outs for the win.

The White Sox have led by at least two runs at one point in each of their last five losses. The 13-game slide is the longest in the majors this year and matches the single-season franchise record set in 1924.

Corey Julks hit his first career leadoff homer for the South Siders, who dropped to a major league-low 5-26 on the road.

ATHLETICS 2, MARINERS 1

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Joey Estes took a perfect game into the seventh inning, Mason Miller had a five-out save and Oakland beat Seattle.

The A's, who have dropped three straight series, can snap the skid with a victory Thursday. The Mariners had won eight of their last nine.

Zack Gelfo hit a home run in the third, and Daz Cameron scored on a passed ball in the sixth after he had advanced from first to third on a wild pickoff throw.

Estes (2-1), making his seventh career start, did not allow a baserunner until J.P. Crawford led off the seventh inning with a double. The right-hander left the game one batter later after throwing 78 pitches and striking out five.

RANGERS 9, TIGERS 1

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Texas starter José Ureña had a perfect game through six innings when recent Detroit callup Justyn-Henry Malloy homered for his first major league hit, but the Rangers beat the Tigers.

Ureña (2-5) retired the first 15 batters before Malloy led off by hitting a 95-mph sinker 413 feet to left-center field on a 3-1 pitch. The 32-year-old allowed the one hit and one walk in 6 2/3 innings throwing 97 pitches. He received a huge ovation as he left the game.

David Robertson and Kirby Yates finished Texas' combined two-hitter.

Malloy was called up from Triple-A Toledo on Monday. He was the starting DH in all three games of the Tigers' series at Texas and was 0 for 8 with three strikeouts before his homer. He added an eighth-inning single.

Two players left during the first two innings with injuries. Detroit starter Kenta Maeda threw only two pitches before leaving with right-side abdominal discomfort. Texas shortstop Corey Seager left with left hamstring tightness following an opposite-field RBI single in the second.

CUBS 7, WHITE SOX 6

CHICAGO (AP)—Mike Tauchman hit a game-ending homer, and the Chicago Cubs handed the Chicago White Sox their 13th consecutive loss.

Nick Gonzales tied a career high with four RBIs for the Pirates. Edward Olivares and Ke'Bryan Hayes had two hits and drove in a run for Pittsburgh, which used a big second inning against James Paxton (5-1) to take control before holding on late.

Tauchman drove Michael Kopech's second pitch in the ninth—a 98.4 mph fastball—deep to center for his fifth of the season. It was his first career game-ending homer.

Tauchman had two hits and scored three times as the Cubs

ANGELS 3, PADRES 2

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)—Nolan Schueler and Zach Neto homered as the Los Angeles Angels finished off a three-game sweep of San Diego.

Fernando Tatis Jr. had the seventh four-hit game of his career and first since 2021 as the Padres dropped four straight on the road for the first time this season.

It was the first time since last July against the Yankees that the Angels swept a three-game series at home. Coming into the series, the Halos had dropped 21 of 28 games at The Big A, easily the worst home start in franchise history.

José Soriano (3-5) had his fifth straight start in which he went at least six innings and allowed two runs (one earned) and six hits with one strikeout.

Matt Moore retired the side in the ninth for his first save since 2022 with Texas.

San Diego's Dylan Cease (5-5) also went six innings and gave up three runs and four hits and struck out six.

Schueler broke out of an 0-for-18 slump when he connected on a slider by Cease and hit the auxiliary scoreboard just above the wall in right-center. It was the Halos' third leadoff homer this season and second by Schueler.

St. Louis Cardinals' Nolan Arenado (28) and Brendan Donovan celebrate after a baseball game against the Houston Astros Wednesday, June 5, 2024, in Houston.

on base streak to eight after reaching five times Tuesday.

The string ended when Arorena popped out to second to end the seventh.

The Marlins dropped to an NL worst 21-41. They have started June with four straight losses after going 14-13 in May.

YANKEES 9, TWINS 5

NEW YORK (AP)—Aaron Judge drove in five runs, Carlos Rodón retired his first 16 batters and the New York Yankees matched their longest winning streak of the season at seven by beating Minnesota.

New York has won 18 of 22 games and is tied with Philadelphia for the best record in the major leagues at 44-19.

Backed by a four-run first inning, Rodón (8-2) won his career-best sixth straight start. He didn't allow a hit until Carlos Santana drove a fastball into the right-field seats in the sixth.

Judge put the Yankees ahead with an RBI groundout against Chris Paddack (4-3), hit a three-run triple off Diego Castillo in a four-run fifth as New York opened an 8-0 lead and had a bases loaded walk against Josh Staumont in the sixth. Judge has 54 RBIs and moved one ahead of Juan Soto for the team lead. Only Cleveland's José Ramírez (58) has more.

BLUE JAYS 3, ORIOLES 2

TORONTO (AP)—Isiah Kiner-Falefa drove in the winning run in the bottom of the ninth inning and Toronto beat Baltimore.

Justin Turner singled off Craig Kimbrel (0-2) to begin the ninth, his third hit of

the game.

Cavan Biggio ran for Turner, advanced to second base on Kimbrel's errant pick-off throw before moving to third on a fly ball and scoring on Kiner-Falefa's base hit to right field. Kiner-Falefa had two hits and two RBIs.

Yimi García (2-0) worked one inning for the win.

Anthony Santander homered for the Orioles, opening the scoring with a 436-foot leadoff homer in the second, his 12th. The second-deck drive came off Blue Jays right-hander José Berrios.

PIRATES 10, DODGERS 6

PITTSBURGH (AP)—Paul Skenes struck out eight over five innings, Aroldis Chapman threw the fastest pitch in the majors this season and Pittsburgh beat Shohei Ohtani and the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Skenes (3-0) allowed three runs on six hits, including a two-run shot by Ohtani in the third. The 22-year-old rookie also struck out the Los Angeles superstar with a 100 mph fastball in the first inning, one of 28 pitches thrown by Skenes and Chapman that reached triple digits.

Chapman had five pitches of at least 103 mph during the seventh inning, including a 104 mph heater to Teoscar Hernandez that Hernandez managed to foul off.

Nick Gonzales tied a career high with four RBIs for the Pirates. Edward Olivares and Ke'Bryan Hayes had two hits and drove in a run for Pittsburgh, which used a big second inning against James Paxton (5-1) to take control before holding on late.

Tauchman drove Michael Kopech's second pitch in the ninth—a 98.4 mph fastball—deep to center for his fifth of the season. It was his first career game-ending homer.

Tauchman had two hits and scored three times as the Cubs

Zverev reaches his 4th consecutive semifinal as trial proceeds



PARIS (AP)—Alexander Zverev beat Alex de Minaur 6-4, 7-6 (5), 6-4 on Wednesday night to reach the French Open semifinals for the fourth year in a row.

Zverev extended his current winning streak to 11 matches, including a title on clay at the Italian Open last month, and his victory over the 11th-seeded de Minaur at Court Philippe Chatrier moves him into a matchup against two-time Roland Garros runner-up Casper Ruud on Friday.

The fourth-seeded Zverev is competing in Paris as a court proceeding continues in his home country of Germany, connected to accusations of physical abuse by a former girlfriend of his.

Zverev said he never thought it was a possibility he wouldn't be able to play in the French Open because of the court case.

"No, they made it very clear from the beginning that I don't have to be there. I think everything is going accordingly. Everything is going OK from my side and from my point of view," he said. "There's nothing else to say."

The other men's semifinal Friday is No. 2 Jannik Sinner, who won the Australian Open in January, against No. 3 Carlos Alcaraz, who owns two



AP

Germany's Alexander Zverev clenches his fist after scoring a point against Australia's Alex De Minaur during their quarterfinal match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris, Wednesday, June 5, 2024.

major trophies. None of the four men left in the bracket has ever won the French Open, and this will be the first title match in Paris since 2004 without at least one of Rafael Nadal, Novak Djokovic or Roger Federer.

The women's semifinals Thursday are No. 1 Iga Swiatek vs. No. 3 Coco Gauff, followed by No. 12 Jas-

mine Paolini vs. 17-year-old Mirra Andreeva.

Djokovic was the defending men's champion but withdrew from the tournament on Tuesday because of an injured right knee, allowing the man he was supposed to play in the quarterfinals, Ruud, to advance.

Djokovic will be replaced by Sin-

want it to get worse. Also, I haven't been able to train much since my injury, so my mind is not in the right state for it," said the recent Saipan Southern High School graduate.

Even with that, she said, "It's okay though, I'm taking this time to recover properly because I have the Micronesian Games that will be held in the Marshall Islands in two weeks and I want to perform my best there."

With how she feels heading to the Micronesian Games soon, she said, "As of right now, I'm feeling confident. I just need to recover [well] and take care of myself and I'll be fine."

As for her 100m race performance, she said, she was "incredibly grateful" that she got to race in that. "I competed in the 100m race and finished fourth in my heat. While I didn't set a new personal best, I'm proud of myself for overcoming the injury and being able to compete," said Cruz.

The competition, she said, was "fantastic so far. I've had the chance to watch people from different countries compete, and I've even competed myself. Along the way, I've met many new people."

For Tan, who broke her PR in the 1,500 last Tuesday, she said the conditions for her race was cloudy and cool, so it was a nice run. As for her 5,000m last Wednesday, she said it was in the afternoon so it was sunny and hot.

As for the competition, she said it "was tough. The lead group was running way faster than I've ever ran. I knew they were going to go out fast so I tried to focus on my own race and run my own race."

On her performance, she said, "I'm happy with how I raced both

races. I fell short of my goals but, overall, just grateful to be here and being given another opportunity to compete for the NMI internationally."

"The championships so far have been really run. The Fijian hospitality has been great, everyone here has been so welcoming and friendly," said Tan in her second Oceania Athletics Championships.

On the championships overall, Dela Cruz said that it was great. "Thanks to World Athletics for changing the qualification system for the Olympics—it has forced elite athletes to take part in area championships again and elevate the field. We had Australia and New Zealand and elite athletes

SANDLOT

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8-1. The Bears had the final say in the and tried for a comeback.

It went well for a short time as a leadoff double was made by Bears' Kaipo Dikito. Then, Verlance Secharmidal eventually scored to make it a 2-8 game. But the bottom order of the

ner at No. 1 in the ATP rankings on Monday.

Zverev is trying to win his first Grand Slam title. So is No. 7 Ruud, who lost in the finals at Roland Garros in 2022 (to Nadal) and 2023 (to Djokovic) and at the U.S. Open in 2022 (to Alcaraz).

"I'm happy to be in another semifinal," said Zverev, who is 0-3 at that stage in Paris. "Hopefully, I can win one."

He lost to Dominic Thiem in the final of the 2020 U.S. Open and won a gold medal in singles at the Tokyo Olympics three years ago.

After eliminating 14-time champion Nadal in the first round, Zverev was coming off a pair of five-setters in the third and fourth rounds. This victory was far less complicated, although it could have been far more difficult than it was: de Minaur was one point from tying things at a set apiece while Zverev served down 6-5 in the second.

But Zverev fought that off. In the ensuing tiebreaker, de Minaur pulled out to a 4-0 lead, before Zverev collected seven of the next eight points.

The third set appeared to shift Zverev's way for good when de Minaur double-faulted to get broken and fall behind 4-2. When Zverev served for the victory at 5-3,

compete which didn't really happen in the past," he said.

"We cannot thank Oceania Athletics enough. All the athletes and team personnel were taken care of. Thank you to all the sponsors, stakeholders in Fiji for supporting and holding an excellent Oceania championship: World Athletics Area Association, Athletics Fiji, Fiji national sports commission, Fiji Sports Council, Digicel Pacific, Coca-Cola, Euro Pacific, Partners Fiji, Fiji TV, and PasifikaTV," he said.

He added, "Thank you to the [local organizing committee] for doing such an amazing job. Thank you to our own NMA, for taking very good care of us during this trip as well."

lineup couldn't get past Sandlot pitching as only one other batter got on base from a walk, while the last two outs were registered via ground outs.

Last Tuesday, the Falcons' record remained untarnished with four wins as they slipped past the D-9er's, 4-3. Last Wednesday's game between the White Sox and Blue Shark was moved to Friday.

are reserved for long runs, which can go from 6 miles and beyond, but right now I haven't been training for anything longer than 10K."

What's next after the one-year milestone? He wants to keep running and to be an inspiration for others. "I want to inspire other runners in the CNMI that anything is possible if we put our minds and bodies to it—we just need to be consistent and to show up and we will see those results come in. My goal is to run for the rest of my life, if I can," said Santos.

however, de Minaur used a delicate drop volley to break and extend the match. It wouldn't last much longer, because Zverev broke right back to end it.

All in all, it was not a particularly clean match. They combined for more than twice as many unforced errors (101) as winners (48).

"Had my chances. Probably should have taken that second set," de Minaur said after the end of his best run at the French Open. "I left my heart out there. Did everything I could."

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	44	19	.698	—
Baltimore	39	21	.650	3½
Boston	31	31	.500	12½
Tampa Bay	31	31	.500	12½
Toronto	29	32	.475	14

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	40	20	.667	—
Kansas City	36	26	.581	5
Minnesota	33	28	.541	7½
Detroit	31	31	.500	10
Chicago	15	47	.242	26

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	35	28	.556	—
Texas	30	32	.484	4½
Houston	28	35	.444	7
Oakland	25	38	.397	10
Los Angeles	24	38	.387	10½

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	44	19	.698	—
Atlanta	34	25	.576	8
Washington	27	34	.443	16
New York	27	35	.435	16½
Miami	21	41	.339	22½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	36	26	.581	—
Chicago	31	31	.500	5
St. Louis	29	31	.483	6
Pittsburgh	29	32	.475	6½
Cincinnati	29	33	.468	7

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	38	25	.603	—
San Diego	32	33	.492	7
San Francisco	30	33	.476	8
Arizona	29	33	.468	8½
Colorado	21	40	.344	16

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SBL STANDINGS

	W	L	Pct	GB
Bandits	4	0		
Padres	4	0		
Falcons	4	0		
Cardinals	4	1		
Royals	3	2		
Sandlot	3	2		
Braves	2	2		
Blue Jays	2	2		
D-9er's	1	4		
Bears	1	4		
White Sox	0	3		
Natives	0	5		
Blue Shark	0	5		

GOOD

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- RENT
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Redemption-minded Celtics set to match up with opportunistic Mavericks.
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Saipan Tribune Sports

24 FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 2024

Zverev reaches his 4th consecutive semifinal as trial proceeds.

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

'Good performance for Team NMI in Fiji'

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER

The four-athlete NMI athletics delegation in Suva, Fiji wrapped up their stint in the 2024 Oceania Athletics Championships yesterday with a good performance overall, according to team official Edward Dela Cruz Jr.

Team captain/coach Zarinae Sapong, young sprinters Theodore Rodgers and Casey Cruz, and multi-awarded runner Tania Tan competed in their respective events last Tuesday. The OAC is from June 1 to June 8, with the last events for NMI held yesterday.

Dela Cruz said that the team's performance over the past few days was "good. They did their best and came out healthy with a locked mindset for Micronesian games which is our goal." For Northern Marianas Athletics, he said they are "happy with it and are looking forward to

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NMI's athletics delegation from left, team official Edward Dela Cruz Jr., Theodore Rodgers, Cassie Cruz, Zarinae Sapong, and Tania Tan, with the CNMI flag in the backdrop during the opening ceremony of the 2024 Ocea



From left, Theodore Rodgers, Tania Tan, Cassie Cruz, and Zarinae Sapong pose for a group photo before their competitions in the 2024 Oceania Athletics Championship in Suva, Fiji.

Sandlot takes down Bears, 8-2

 Sandlot are once again above .500 for a 3-2 record after they took down the Bears, 8-2, in the 2024 Tan Holdings-SBL last Monday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Baseball Field.

Sandlot pitcher Mike Iguel held down the Bears' offense from the get go and allowed just one run in the first inning to Henry Lizama Jr.

Despite no runs by Sandlot in the first two innings, they bounced back in the third and scored three—Tyrone Omar, Diego Camacho, and Lamarc Iguel from the top of their lineup. Bears pitcher Dennis Cabrera labored through and finally got the three outs to stop their onslaught.



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REPORTER

File photo shows Sandlot pitcher Reid Teregeyo on the bump during one of their games in the 2024 Tan Holdings-SBL at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Baseball Field.

However, Sandlots' pitching and defense remained steadfast as they silenced the Bears in four straight innings for still a 3-1 lead. Then, Sandlots' Irvin Saralu scored in the fourth to put them up by three runs, 4-1.

The Bears had a reprieve in the fifth when Sandlot took a break from scoring, but it was short lived because Sandlot scored more in the sixth. Four runs would score and as they ballooned their lead,

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Philip Santos completes 1 year of running daily

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER



The list of everyday runners in the CNMI is ever growing as another runner, Philip Santos, completed his 365 straight days of running last May 25.

He celebrated his streak with a 3.65-mile run on the Beach Road Pathway starting at The Shack.

His journey of running everyday began last year after Typhoon Mawar swirled around the CNMI and Guam.

The 25-year-old wanted to challenge himself physically and proved that he was capable of doing hard things, so he started the streak.

As a Run Saipan member, he constantly joins Run Saipan races and said that his inspiration for the streak was Run Saipan president Edward Dela Cruz Jr., and his friends at Run Saipan, Aaron Pamintuan, Simon Necesito, and Sheila Mabutas, "who have been very encouraging and supportive throughout my running journey."

What keeps him going is the want to constantly improve as a runner. "I used to

run really slow, but over the course of the last 365 days, I've seen improvements in my pace and have hit several PRs in the 5K, 10K, and even ran my first full marathon. At the end of the day, streak running for me is about showing up for myself even when it's hard."

The lead family coordinator at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. said that the toughest part of streak running is when he travels off-island and also the days

after hard races.

"I've done runs around the Narita Airport to maintain my streak. Also, when the neighborhood I travel to isn't that safe, I resort to treadmill running which I find to be more dragging and boring than running out on the streets," he said. "The GPS also gets messed up in these areas, so it can be hard to track my actual pace and distance. Lastly, the day after my marathon, I had to run

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LAO ZHANG

Philip Santos, a 365-day and ongoing streak runner, poses for a photo on the way to the finish line during a race.